

two daughters and a son, a Lieutenant in the 16th Lancers, are left behind.

The following is a list of his works :—

1. Journal of a Mission to Kandahar.
2. Afghanistan and the Afghans.
3. From Indus to the Tigris.
4. Ethnography of Afghanistan.
5. History of Cholera.
6. Supplement to the History of Cholera.
7. Yusufzai.
8. Kashmir and Kashghar.
9. Grammar and Dictionary of Pukhto Language.

In addition numerous pamphlets on political and medical subjects. T. D.

### III. NOTES AND NEWS.

*Indian Ethnography.*—The following Resolution has been published by the Government of India :—

*Naini Tal, the 28th June, 1892.*

READ—

Letter from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, No. <sup>27 Pub.</sup>/<sub>1888</sub> dated 20th October, 1891.

Opinions of the officers consulted—Messrs. W. Crooke, J. C. Nesfield, E. J. Kitts, V. A. Smith.

OBSERVATIONS.—In the letter from the Government of India, above quoted, the opinion of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor was asked regarding the desirability of extending to these Provinces the scheme of ethnographical research which has for some time been prosecuted in Bengal under the supervision of Mr. H. H. Risley. The scheme, as described by Mr. Risley, contemplates the appointment of a “Provincial Director of Ethnographic Inquiries,” who should be unpaid, but who should be provided with a clerk to carry on correspondence and

with an allowance for stationery and other contingent charges. The Director by circulating lists of ethnographic questions under the authority of Government to District Officers and other correspondents, and by means of monographs to be drawn up by him or selected correspondents, would collect information regarding castes, customs and folk-lore, which information after collation and verification would be printed by Government in a convenient form and distributed to learned societies in Europe and elsewhere.

2. The Government of India observes that the present is an opportune time for such inquiries, as the material procured at the recent census regarding caste, race and tribe would form a basis for the proposed investigation. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees in the desirability of prosecuting the inquiry at the present time; and has consulted several officers in these Provinces who have, by independent research, acquired special knowledge on the various subjects connected with ethnography. Mr. W. Crooke, at present Magistrate and Collector of Mirzapur, has already published several works of recognized value, and has for many years been engaged in collecting materials for a work similar in scope and arrangement to that compiled by Mr. Risley for Bengal. Mr. E. J. Kitts, now Judge at Moradabad, has devoted much attention to the collection of anthropometric data. Mr. J. C. Nesfield, at present Director of Public Instruction, has, during his long service in these Provinces, collected valuable notes on tribes, customs and folk-lore; and has published in part the results of his inquiries. Mr. V. A. Smith by his historical inquiries is also in a position to render valuable aid in the investigation which it is now proposed to undertake.

3. Mr. W. Crooke has offered his services to Government as Honorary Director of Ethnographic Inquiries, and the Lieutenant-Governor accepts with thanks the offer of his services. There are in these Provinces no societies formed for scientific investigation of this kind, but there are societies which can, as correspondents, contribute very

valuable information, and which doubtless will assist. A special branch of inquiry is the measurement of living subjects with a view to ascertaining the physical characteristics of different tribes. Mr. E. J. Kitts will be asked to undertake the direction of this branch, and in consultation with the Director to make proposals for the systematic record of measurements and the utilisation of the data already in existence. Mr. Nesfield and Mr. Smith will be asked to give the Director the benefit of their advice, to aid him in drawing up lists of questions, and to co-operate in other ways pointed out by their knowledge and experience.

4. Mr. Crooke has asked for an allotment of Rs. 1,000 for establishment and contingencies, including any preliminary printing that may be necessary. It is understood that a further grant will be required if Mr. Kitts undertakes anthropometric inquiries. The Provincial Superintendent of Census will be able to provide copies of tables of castes and sub-castes in September, 1892; the figures for any special caste could be supplied at an earlier date. The results of the inquiries of the Census Department in connection with classification of castes and civil condition will be placed at the Director's disposal. District Officers will be asked to render such aid as lies in their power, and to place the Director in communication with gentlemen who take an interest in the subject, and who from their own observation and inquiry can supply answers to his questions.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor fully recognizes how vast is the field to be explored and how inadequate are the arrangements sketched above for its complete exploration. The officers on whose assistance Government relies have their ordinary duties to perform, which at no time are light. His Honor is, however, of opinion that the experiment should be tried, that an effort should be made to gather up the scattered information now in existence, and to encourage those possessed of special knowledge to communicate it.

6. The Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner, having ascertained that all the officers above named who are now in India are willing to aid Government in the manner indicated, is pleased to appoint Mr. W. Crooke to be "Provincial Director of Ethnographical Inquiries" and to place at his disposal a sum of Rs. 1,000.

*The Semitic Inscriptions at Sinjerli.*—M. Joseph Halévy, the well-known French Orientalist, was deputed by his colleagues of the Paris Institute to go to Berlin and report upon the Semitic inscriptions which have been recently placed in the museum of that city, having, as already stated, been discovered by the German Oriental Committee which has been prosecuting its excavations in the comparatively unexplored region forming the boundary between Asia Minor and Syria. This region is formed by the two chains of the Amanus Mountains, the valley between them being traversed by the river Pyramus, which flows into the sea to the north of Antioch. It was upon the slopes of the southern range of the Amanus, at a place called Sinjerli, that the Berlin committee discovered an ancient city, buried beneath a number of mounds, with a number of statues bearing cuneiform inscriptions, Hittite inscriptions, and two long Aramean inscriptions, dating from the eighth or ninth century B.C., and engraved in raised characters upon the robes of two Royal statues. M. Halévy, who has been able to copy the inscriptions, states that the two Kings upon whose statues they are engraved were rulers of the land of Yadi, and reigned at an interval of about a century from each other. The first statue is that of Panémou, the founder of the dynasty, and the inscription relates his being placed upon the throne, the chief events of his reign, and the protection of the gods, this inscription being forty lines in length. The second inscription, a photograph of which has been published in M. Philippe Berger's new edition of the "Histoire de l'Écriture dans l'Antiquité," is, in the opinion of M. Halévy, that of a King who was a vassal of Tiglath-Pilezer, King of Assyria, and who relates in some detail the wars of his father with

the neighbouring tribes, his relations with the Assyrians, his defeats, and his victories, in which, as in those related upon the inscriptions of Mesa and of Byblos, the divinity plays the principal part. He then goes on to describe the history of his own reign, and terminates by invoking the protection of the gods. M. Halévy says that the language of these inscriptions is not Aramean, as was at first supposed, but a Phœnician dialect, very analogous to Hebrew, which was spoken by the people whom the Assyrians named Hatte—that is to say, Hittites or Hethœens. He adds that the current opinion as to their not being of Semitic race is quite erroneous, and that the hieroglyphics discovered in various parts of Asia Minor are of Anatolian and not of Syrian origin, the few texts of this kind found at Hamath and Aleppo being due to Anatolian conquerors, whose domination, however, was very temporary in character.

*Marriage Customs in Ancient India.*—Dr. Winternitz, now working in Oxford, has published an elaborate monograph in German on this important topic (*Altindische Hochzeitsrituell*, Vienna, Tempsky). He sets out more fully than has hitherto been done the regulations on the matter preserved in the ancient sects, with especial reference throughout to the *Āpastambīya Grihya Sūtra*. And he adds a number of very striking analogies he has discovered between the ritual of ancient India and that in use in other Aryan countries. The whole work is conceived and carried out in a thorough and scholarly way, and we congratulate him on the success of the special study he has made.

*Indian Fairy Tales.*—Under this title Mr. Joseph Jacobs has published a collection of some five-and-twenty Indian stories drawn from all kinds of sources. They are beautifully printed and illustrated, and would be an ideal gift book for Anglo-Indian children. In an introduction and appendix, which the children would skip, there is a clear *résumé* of the history of Indian story telling in its influence on the West; and older readers will find the interest of the stories much enhanced by the insight they may here obtain into

what is perhaps the most entrancing story in the book, the "Story of the Indian Stories."

*Indian Scholars.*—The following letter closes the correspondence printed on pp. 426–428 of this volume :—

*India Office, Whitehall, 5th August, 1892.*

DEAR SIR,—Mr. Wynn's letter of the 10th June will have informed you that a copy of your letter of the 27th May last would be referred to the Viceroy.

A reply to this reference has now been received, and I am desired by Lord Cross to communicate to you the views of His Excellency as expressed therein.

In regard to natives of India who may have distinguished themselves by proficiency in Oriental languages, it will be remembered that the honorary titles of Mahámahopádhya and Shams-ul-Ulama have been conferred since 1887; whilst the Order of the Indian Empire contains the names of a number of gentlemen who were appointed to it in recognition of their distinction in the same field; the policy of the State being to encourage Oriental scholars in their labours by the grant of honorary decorations.—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

*Robert Cust, Esq.,*

THEOPH. HASTINGS.

*Hon. Sec. of Royal Asiatic Society.*

#### IV. NOTICES OF BOOKS.

AN AVESTA GRAMMAR, in comparison with Sanskrit. By A. V. WILLIAMS JACKSON, of Columbia College, New York. Part I, pp. 273, with an Introduction, pp. 38. (Stuttgart, 1892: Kohlhammer.)

A PRACTICAL GRAMMAR OF THE AVESTA LANGUAGE, compared with Sanskrit, pp. 312. By KAVASJI EDALJI KANGA, of the Moolla Feeroz Madressa. (Bombay, 1891: Education Society's Press.)

If we measured the advance of study by the increasing bulk of grammars, we should have to conclude that the study of the Avesta had been making gigantic strides