

B. "On the Sites of Nikaia and Bouképhala."

C. "Gradus ad Aornon."

10. Contribution to the Agri Horticultural Society's Journal, vol. xi, part 2 :

"On the Undeveloped Resources of our Indian Empire."

ROBERT N. CUST,

October, 1896.

Hon. Sec. to R.A.S.

#### IV. NOTES AND NEWS.

*Caitanya*.—Under the title of Śrī Gaurāṅga Līlā Smaraṇa Mangala Stotray, the well-known Vaishṇava Śrī Kedāra-natha Bhakti-vinod, M.R.A.S., has published a poem in Sanskrit on the life and teachings of Caitanya. It is accompanied with a commentary, also in Sanskrit, in which the subject is further elucidated, and is preceded by an Introduction of 63 pages in English, in which the doctrines taught by Caitanya are set out in somewhat full detail; this position, more especially as against Śankara and the Advaita Vedantists, is explained at length. The little volume will add to our knowledge of this remarkable reformer, and we express our thanks to Bhakti-vinod for giving it us in English and Sanskrit, rather than in Bangālī, in which language it must necessarily have remained a closed book to European students of the religious life of India.

*Sinhalese and its Allied Dialects*.—In the "Sitzungs-berichte" of the Royal Bavarian Academy for 1896, vol. ii, Dr. Geiger has published a most interesting account of his too short sojourn in Ceylon, from December, 1895, to March, 1896. He first gives an account of the way in which he spent the time at his disposal, and then deals with the linguistic results of his journey. He hopes shortly to bring out these results in fuller form, and they are to include the following essays: (1) On the language of the

Rodiyas; (2) On the etymology of Old Sinhalese or Elu; (3) On Sinhalese itself, with a summary of the history of Sinhalese literature. This will appear in Bühler's Grundriss. (4) On the language of the Maldive Islands; (5) On the language of the Woeddas or Veddas. The best thanks of students of philology are due to the Bavarian Academy and to the Bavarian Government for rendering it possible for Dr. Geiger to undertake this journey, so full of promise from the historical and philological point of view. And we hope that the illness from which Dr. Geiger unfortunately suffered during his stay in the island will not prevent him from making soon accessible to scholars the very varied and important series of essays he thus promises.

THE extremely interesting archaic plan of a field with measurements, situated near the city of Dungi-sib-kalama, published in the *Comptes Rendus* of the French Academy of Inscriptions by Professor J. Oppert, is well worthy of notice. Professor Oppert's valuable studies of the metrology of the Babylonians will cause all students to turn with interest to his remarks upon the measures. From this plan, and from the texts treated of by Reisner (*Berliner Akademie*, April, 1896), Prof. Oppert argues that  $\llcorner$  is equivalent to 3600,  $\llcorner$  to 600,  $\llcorner$  to 60,  $\llcorner$  to 10, and  $\llcorner$  to 1, during the period (before 2506 B.C.) to which the tablet belongs. The copy of the text was made at Constantinople by Father Scheil.

M. Thureau Dangin has also treated of this "Cadastre," which he was the first to see, and he has published a really excellent copy of it (*Recueil de Travaux*). The results of his study of the text, based upon the metrical system of Reisner ( $\llcorner = 1$ ,  $\llcorner = \frac{1}{15}$ , etc.), differs, however, greatly from Prof. Oppert's, as will be seen from a comparison of the corrected plans given by these scholars. The date is  $\llcorner$   $\llcorner$   $\llcorner$   $\llcorner$   $\llcorner$   $\llcorner$   $\llcorner$   $\llcorner$   $\llcorner$   $\llcorner$ , "Year he (the king) ravaged the land of Šašrum," and if the Šašrum here

