

here gathered together, revised and provided with an Index as a further contribution to those studies in the life of pre-Islamic Arabia immediately before the appearance of Mohammed, which were begun in his "Berceau de l'Islam," and continued in his monographs on "Ta'if," "La Mecque" and "Les Sanctuaires préislamites dans l'Arabie occidentale."

In these essays Père Lammens follows the same method as in his previous studies. A careful combing of the early poetry, the Books of Traditions and the early *Sira* material, provides him with material which is subjected to minute and sometimes drastic criticism, and made to yield up its precious scraps of historical information from which we can reconstruct a more or less faithful picture of the conditions in Arabia at the time of the coming of Mohammed.

The Essays comprised in the present collection are: I. Christians at Mecca; II. Jews at Mecca; III. The Cult of sacred stones and religious processions among the pre-Islamic Arabs; IV. The religious character of the vendetta among the ancient Arabs; V. The *Ahabish* or the military organization of Mecca at the time of the Hijra; VI. The ancient Frontier between Syria and the Hijaz.

It has not been the purpose of the author to make an exhaustive study of any of these subjects, rather he has emphasized facts or aspects of the problem which have been neglected by previous scholars, and in many cases he has been able to correct false views and to make considerable contributions to our knowledge. Especially is this true in Essays III, IV and V. In Essays I and II we are inclined to think that he has made too much of Jewish influence in the environment and too little of the Christian.

ARTHUR JEFFERY.

Fallen Angels in Jewish, Christian and Mohammedan Literature. By Rabbi Leo Jung, Ph.D. The Dropsie College, Philadelphia. pp. 165.

This thesis was prepared for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the University of London, and is now reprinted from the Jewish Quarterly Review. We regret the long delay in securing the book for notice as it is of considerable importance to all students of Islam. The author discusses the nature of angels, the two Satans (for he distinguishes the Satan of the New Testament from that of the Old), objection to the creation of man, the Fall of man, Ashmedai, the Fall of the Angels. Each of these sections of the book gives successively the Jewish, Christian, and Mohammedan views on the subject. The work is well documented, and though we do not accept all its conclusions, there is no question of able research. There are appendices on Jewish and Christian lore regarding Adam before the fall, The consequences of the Fall and Azazel. The bibliography is full and there is a good index.

Z.

Christianity and some living Religions of the East. By Sydney Cave, M.A., D.D. Duckworth, London. 222 pp. 5s.

The President of Cheshunt College, Cambridge, who in his earlier volume in the same series, "Studies in Theology," gave an introduction to the study of some living religions, here compares them with Christianity. The dominant conceptions of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Zoroastrianism and Islam in regard to God's nature, manifestation, man's redemption, duty and destiny are passed in review in seven chapters. The writer does not claim that kind of impartiality

which comes from holding that all religions are equally true or untrue. He believes in the finality and universality of the Christian message; not, with Troeltsch, that "Christianity is the highest of extant religions," "but that Christ is the one perfect and universal Saviour." The book is carefully documented, clear in style, and generally accurate in its conclusions. We note two slips regarding Islam. The sinlessness of Mohammed is taught not by "many" (p. 100) but by *all* orthodox Moslems. The Wahhabi sect are *not* "content with the teaching of the Koran alone;" they belong to the Hanbali rite, and follow Tradition as well.

Z.

Seventy Years. A Short History of the British Syrian Mission from 1860 to 1930. By J. D. Maitland-Kirwan, British Syrian Mission, London, S. W. 1., pp. 96.

This is a simple and interesting story of a work begun under circumstances which appealed to the sympathy and love of a woman whose life was wholly given to good works. The condition in Syria in 1860 was a call for devoted service, and from relief work there have grown up many Christian schools, reaching all classes, with most encouraging results. The book is in the nature of a report of seventy years' work in this corner of the Moslem world.

A. E. Z.

Le Sahara. By E. F. Gautier, with 36 illustrations and maps. Payot. Paris. 24 fr.

A scientific yet popular description of the great Sahara by a professor at the University of Algiers since 1900. More and more the French public are attracted by the idea set forth so eloquently in this volume that the desert, instead of a barrier may become a bond, uniting the tropics to Europe by new methods of transportation, and may have new life by the wonders of irrigation. Artesian wells already produce artificial oases, and French engineers have solved the problem of transportation across these vast areas. It is a fascinating study and the photographs are superb.

Al-Babu'l-Hadi'Ashar: a Treatise on the Principles of the Shi'ite Theology. By Hasan b. Jusuf 'Ali Ibnu'l-Mutahhar Al Hilli with commentary by Miqdad-i-Fadil Al Hilli—Translated from the Arabic by William McE. Miller, M.A., B.D., London, Royal Asiatic Society. pp. xiv and 104.

All students of the Shi'ah Theology are indebted to Dr. Duncan B. Macdonald for suggesting the translation of such a compact treatise, and to his pupil for its successful accomplishment. Mr. Miller lives at Meshed, and therefore knows the heart of the Shi'ah world. After a sketch of the life of the author (A. D. 1250-1326) and a brief introduction, there follows the translation of this scholastic treatise, called "The Eleventh Chapter" because it was the final chapter of the celebrated book on Shi'ah worship and prayer. The seven sections are: on The Proof of the Self-Existent; His positive qualities; His privative qualities; Allah's justice; Prophecy; The Imamate and the Return, i. e. on Eschatology. Only section six is distinctly Shi'ah. The notes are few but discriminating, and the work is excellently printed.

Z.

The Heart of Libya. By G. E. Simpson. H. F. & G. Witherby, London. pp. 207. 7s. 6d. net.

This is another book on the oasis of Siwa, of no scientific value, but giving an interesting account of the writer's experiences and contacts with a people who have lived for centuries far away from all contact with the outer world and undisturbed by its progress. The illustrations from photographs are excellent. There is a brief Siwan vocabulary, but the sketch map might as well have been omitted.

Z.

Zaka Ullah of Delhi. By C. F. Andrews. W. Heffer and Sons, Cambridge. pp. 156, 7s. 6d.

We welcome this biographical sketch of a Moslem of the old school, and one who had broad sympathies and a loving heart. The author is well-known as an intimate friend of Tagore and Gandhi, and one who has done more than any other Englishman to produce goodwill among the people of India. In this volume he tells a deeply moving story of one of his old Delhi friends noted for the originality of his educational ideas, his enthusiasm for Aligarh University and his desire for unity between the racial and religious groups that divide India. The background of Delhi before the mutiny and that of the foundation of the Aligarh movement are of interest, and the portrait of Zaka Ullah with his religious devotion, Old World courtesy, and gracious hospitality stands out clearly and vividly.

Z.

Mélanges d'Histoire des Religions. Par H. Hubert et M. Mauss. Felix Alcan, Paris. pp. 236.

This is the second edition of a reprint of three important articles on the History of Religion, which appeared originally in *L'Année Sociologique* founded by Emile Durkheim (1899). The questions discussed are (1) the origin, nature and function of Sacrifice in primitive religion, (2) The origin of Magic and (3) Primitive ideas of time measurement as related to Magic and Religion. Under the last topic, the interesting conclusion is that time was first measured qualitatively, as having sacred values, before it was measured quantitatively. The chapters on Sacrifice and Magic indicate how in France, as in Germany, the pendulum is swinging back from the theories of Tyler, Frazer, and Robertson Smith to a position much more in accord with Biblical teaching.

Z.

Grundsteine zu einer Mittelländisch-Asiatischen Urgeschichte. By Dr. J. Karst. Otto Harrassowitz, Leipzig. pp. 247, price 20m.

An attempt to prove on philological evidence that before the arrival of the Semitic and Hamitic migrations a civilization existed around the Mediterranean basin. These people were the ancestors of the Hittites, the Phrygians, and the Armenians. The argument seems fanciful.

L'Hellénisme et l'Egypte moderne. By Ath. G. Politis. Paris, Alcan, 530 pp. 50 francs.

An account of the Greek contacts with Egypt from the earliest period and their growing numbers and influence since the days of Mohammed Ali.