THE ACADEMY.

PROF. RITTER, of Geneva, has published a pamphlet of genealogical researches concerning his native city, in which he traces the descent of (among others) Mme. de Stael. Her father, the celebrated Necker, it sometimes said to have been of English or Irish origin. But Prof. Ritter shows that the family for three generations had been settled as lawyers at Cusmir, in Poland. It is quite possible that Necker's own father had been induced to migrate to Geneva by George I. of England, for the special purpose of opening a pension for English boys.

Dr. STRICKLER, archivist of Zürich, and the author of the best recent short History of the Swiss Confederation, has just published a new series of essays and lectures, under the title of Kunst- und Wanderstudien in der Schweiz. They are mostly reprints of articles from the "Schweizerischer Rundbrief," the "Blätter der Schweizerischen Gesellschaft in Zürich," and the "Schweizerische Zeitschrift fur Kunst, Kultur und Geistesleben." The serial published by the Historische Verein of St. Gallen. The value of the contributions of the Swiss scholars to the numerous local and specialist publications of their fatherland is widely recognised in Germany; and one, and not the least, of our own living historians has made use of them. Switzerland has never been an eminently artistic land; and its two most brilliant and productive periods—St. Gallen in the ninth and tenth centuries and Basel in the time of the Renaissance and the Reformation—can hardly be claimed as definitively Swiss.

A. WERNER.

THE ORIENTAL CONGRESS AT LEYDEN.

As we have already announced, the sixth international Congress of Orientalists will be held this year at Leyden, from September 10 to 15. The president of the local committee is Prof. Kuenen, who takes the places of the lamented Deyo; the vice-president, Prof. Kern; the two secretaries, Prof. W. Frey and Tiele; the treasurer, Dr. Flevo. On this occasion the congress will distribute itself into five sections: (1) Semitic, with subdivisions for Arabic and Semitic Studies; (2) Coptic, with subdivisions for Coptic or, more strictly, Egyptian; (3) Central Asia and the Far East; (4) Malay and Polynesian; a new section created partly because of the special interests of Holland in these regions, and partly because of the international colonial exhibition now open at Amsterdam. The official languages of the congress are Dutch, French, and Latin; but papers may also be read in English and Italian. A special exhibition of MSS., books, and other objects has been formed; and the museums and libraries of Leyden will be thrown open. There will be excursions to The Hague and to Amsterdam; and the usual dinner will be held on the evening of Friday, September 14. Orientalists are admitted to the congress on payment of six florins. Both the Dutch and Belgian railway companies have made a reduction of fifty per cent. on their fares.

We understand that the Bombay Government, which has always been distinguished for its enlightened patronage of literary and archaeological research, and which has granted leave of absence to Prof. Peterson, who is coming from Bombay to attend the congress. He is to report on the progress made in the Bombay Presidency in the search for Sanskrit MSS., and on some recent archaeological discoveries. Prof. Peterson has just brought out a new volume of his edition of the Kādamba, which contains an important contribution to the knowledge of one of the earliest epochs of literature in which Bāsa belongs. Pandit Śyāmānī Krishnaśāstra, of Balliol College, Oxford, who was present at the Berlin congress in 1891 as a representative from India, has again been appointed a delegate by the Secretary of State.


THREE EARLY ITALIAN SONNETS.

Tristia: Aug. 20, 1883.

I venture to ask hospitality for the three following sonnets, the earliest specimens of their kind taken from Cremonini. The first (circa 1300) is by Lodovico delle Venezie, a stanza man's address to the citizens of Florence, is interesting from its perfect Petrarchan form of quatrains and tercets. The second and third stanzas (circa 1320) are by Francesco Petrarca, and while the tercets are regular, the quatrains have alternate rhymes, after the fashion of the Shaksperean stanza termed a sonnet. That of Messer Polo di Lombardia (Paulo di Castello) is hopelessly corrupt; in 1. 12 for Rispando ché, I am tempted to read Rispando a. Pier (Pietro) delle Vigne, alias Petrus de Vines, was chancellor-secretary to the Hohenstaufen Emperor Frederic II, and caused himself to be killed by basingi (bacuary); Dantis (Inf. xii. 50) introduces him saying, "I be the man that hent the twain of keys," My object is to contrast a literal rendering with the faithful version of the lamented D. G. Rosetti in Dante and His Circle. 1.

LODOVICO DELLE VENECIA.

If you, O Citizens! themo so high; so digned As our ambitious deeds aimed honestly, And were not wiled or perverted by Some deceitful baseness, would it not Seemeth it not some pastime infanticide? If on our accidents and intestine Troubled you pondered, a comely modesty, You will incline your stubborn souls and see Deep rooted in your hearts the horny spine. When lief would Reason punish all offences Of divers fœmen and doppel the proud Ne'er must the triumph of the Sword be shent: But, an by violence spoiled and high pretences It must be used on the fœled crowd, Sole shall the Sword be held magnificent.

MESSER POLO.

'Een as the Leven-fire with lamping light Starthoms in obscure air, and then resplonds W' gleam far broadcinding and blazing bright While crash of thundering storm on Earth descends: That Men advised be fear and fright Things may be true to him that Truth intends, So why't I view her in light? Returning splendour to these eyes she lends. And since she fared in sight with splendor fraught All to day, so cruel-fond of evil tale Thunder their parleys, and hurt for me have wrought.

I want those at thee would see me rail Full off shall trouble turn saeman to naught But life of finer Love shall never fail.
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III.

FIER DELLE VOGUE.

Now for that eynck view not the form of Love, but what it can do; nor maybe you can imagine, amid the many-headed some would prove love to be nothing and his life deny: But, sithen love is not the body, nor the very sense can move. With lordly power and gar all hearts obey, More price he fairly claims to his behove, Than were love visible to our visual ray. Yet as the virtue unto Magnet digit Attractor iron while near the draughtgaco seotth Yet to himself he draweth with dominant hest; Theresm ust this matter shall to invite This Love lathe being; and deid laidliest Faith. To see efn Firm Faith in Love by folk confess.

RICHARD F. BURTON.

SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.


MONTATU, X. de. Le dernier Duc d'Hallier. Paris: Dentu. 5 m.

SCHON, Jules. L'Affaire Nafiyl; trois condamné à mort. Paris: Calmann Lèvy. 5 m.

THEOLOGY.

BRATZ, E. Justus Gesenius, sein Leben u. sein Einfluss auf die hundertseckige Landeskirche. Gött.: Reimer. 18 m.


MÜLLER, F. Das Spekulum d. h. Augustinus u. seine Niederlassung in Rheinland. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 60 Pf.

HISTORY.

ANNALES imperiooum et paparum Eistettenses Ueber, u. erzörs. v. J. Dürringer. 1. Th. Ehlschlag. 5 m.

FORTSCHREitunum Bernardinum. 1. B. u. umfassend die Zeit v. 1500 bis 1700. 2. B. u. von der Zeit v. 1700 bis 1800. 2. B. 2 m. 40 Pf.


MATZ, H. Deutsche Chronologie. 1. Th. Berlin: W. v. Soden. 5 m.

NIELSEN, O. Kjeldhavn i aarone 1536-1690. II. Th. 2. Haf. 1 m. 40 Pf. Copenhagen: Gad.

THURPE, Th. Der Fürst am, die geistlichen Fürsten u. das Institutionseis. (1291). Wien: Dietl u. Sohn. 5 m.

UKRAINISCHER ZURICHTZHE GESCHICHETE d. HEBREISCHE VON VRAUM. LEIPZIG: 5 m.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.


BACKHAUS, H. Grundzüge der Theorie der Potentialtheorie. Gött.: Vandenhoek. 2 m.

BROK, A. Bohemische Schönheiten. Die Geschichte d. böhmischen Zelten. 1. B. Halle: Stutt. 6 m.


HOFSTRA, W. De danske skole i d. moderne, die Anah der Chores duros u. die Entwickelung d. Gesch. der dän. Schule. Göteborg. 1 m. 40 pf.


PHILOLOGY.


ENGELHARDT, A. C. Studia Terentiana. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 8 m.

GOETZEN, Th. Herodotische Studien. I. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 6 m.

HICHERLICH, O. Galische Studien. Wien: Gerold's Sohn. 8 m.

KINZ, C. F. Quaestiones Curtiannae criticae. Copen. [?]: Gyldendal. 3 Kr.

KRAUS. E. Die Kritik u. Erklärung latein. Autoren. Auck. Reuen. 3 m. 60 Pf.


CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SHAPIRA MSS. OF DEUTERONOMY.


I have to correct two involuntary misstatements in my last letter, which I am able to do from Dr. Ginsburg's communication to yesterday's Athenaeum. (1) Except in the Decalogue, he says, the writing is continuous, and there are certain lines, which are a kind of versiculation, are in the MS. In the original, where a word could not be got into the line, it was left, and a part of it stands at the end of the line, and one word begins the next line, as is the case in the inscription on the Moabite stone. Thusfar Dr. Ginsburg I cannot, and will not, undertake to clear up this diversity of writing; I must leave that to the historian of these forged Biblical texts. (2) I see from the published text of the first two chapters of Deuteronomy, according to the tingen, which are necessary, that is to say, has Ar and not br is why it is, that, translated by city, and not as City as a conjeclural rendering of the last word may be right in an exegetical commentary, but not in a faithful reproduction of a new text. Such a method leads to misunderstanding.

On this occasion I will draw attention to some other blunders in the portion of text I published in Dr. Ginsburg's i. 20. "Went through all this [the passage above] is nothing great and terrible wilderness which ye saw is neither good English nor correct Hebrew. The forger ought to have omitted the words "he went through all this [the passage above] is nothing great and terrible wilderness which ye saw was wrath,"缓慢地 "wrest," is perhaps. It is misleading for yeneyf of the received text, "and was wrath," is nonsense. Perhaps it is misleading for yeneyf, but, according to parallel passages in Deut. we should expect to find that he saw (as i. 37). The following passage, which is an ignorant amalgamation of Numb. xiv. 21-23 with Deut. i. 38-40, is as incorrect as only school-boys could make it. It runs as follows: As I live, surely all the people that sees [not saw; the Authorised Version has have seen] my wonders and my signs which I have done these ten times [there supply for the havan in Dr. Ginsburg's text 'there shall be no signs whatsoever' in that forsager], and the forger most likely having in mind the ten plagues [are several possible for the ten signs] have not hearkened unto my voice. Then they shall not see the that good land which I swore to give unto their fathers save your children and Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, which standeth before the Lord." For the words "all the people" of the Moabite text, the received text has "all the men," which is logical; are women and children not included? I say that to be seen (Numb. xiv. 22) refers to "my people," not to the first instance, which is everlasting, and hence we have the present tense; in connexion with signs and miracles of past time only, we should expect to find that have seen (as rau). I will not insist upon the change of zumnethi, "save," into bilti, which last is cer- tainly less emphatic. Now we come to a most illigilous construction. God speaks of those who will not see the promised land in the third person, while the forger could not have ventured to attack the latter unless the Ammonites had been neutral. The new spelling of the name of the Zimmunim as 'Ammumnim and the verse which would be contracted from Aassumnim, "the strong, strong nation." Is this interpretation given by a committer? If so, we should be on the track of the original upon which the Moabite text is based. Here the printed text before us comes to an end.
