THE ACADEMY.

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MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

The Expositor for February opens with a learned paper, by Dr. Neubauer, entitled "Jewish Controversy and the Pugio Fidei." The gradual development of polemical relations between the Reform and Conservative movements is carefully traced and the subject matter of philosophy treated from an original point of view.

The first series will, it is hoped, ultimately cover the entire history of thought in the fields of metaphysics and ethics. At present it is proposed to follow the developments in modern philosophy, and the following volumes have already been promised:—Senecanists: Locke to Mill, by Dr. W. S. Hough, of Michigan; Modern Idealists: Leibnitz to Locke, by Prof. Andrew Seth, of St. Andrews, Nova Scotia; Bentham to Leibnitz, by W. L. Courtenay, of New College, Oxford; Later Idealists: Kant to Hegel, by Prof. W. Wallace, of Oxford; Scientific Empirical and Rational, by Prof. Adamson, of Owens College, Manchester; The History of Poetic Philosophy: Plato to Rousseau, by D. G. Ritchie, of King's College, Oxford; Burke to the Present Day, by J. H. Muirhead; The History of Economics: Adam Smith to the Present Day, by Dr. J. Bonar; The History of Aesthetics, by E. Bouquet; The Evolution of Theology since Kant, by Prof. Otto Pieler, of Berlin.

By way of introduction, a translation of Erdmann’s smaller History of Philosophy, in three volumes, by Dr. W. S. Hough, will be issued shortly. It is hoped that some of the other volumes will follow in the spring of 1890.

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ALADDIN IN THE ORIGINAL ARABIC.

Abbassia: Jan. 22, 1898.


Is this booklet the modesty of the title is equalled only by the merit of the work. M. Hermann Zöppritz, the well-known translator of the Chronique de Tabari, has, after his fashion, taken in hand an interesting and much disputed subject, and has treated it definitively in a style at once pleasant and learned—bristling with facts and figures, and readable. In the preface of the "Arabian Nights" one knows that ten of the Gallandian Tales (or eleven including the "Princess of Deryabah") are, or rather were, of unknown origin; and the list contains the two most widely read poems of the "One Thousand and One Nights." As I have said in the Terminal Essay to the Thousand Nights and a Night (vol. x., p. 103), conjectures about the provenance were manifold, but mostly ran upon four lines. Baron d’Ocagne, in his preface to a recent edition of the "One Thousand and One Nights," in the public libraries of Paris; Mr. Cherney suggested that they had been borrowed from the Šáh of the professional tale-tellers of Smyrna and Constantinople, an opinion supported by the late Mr. H. C. Grote (Pol.-Lore Record); and Mr. Payne (ix. 205) advocated the probability "of their having been composed, at a comparatively recent period, by an inhabitant of Baghdad," adding, however, that an examination of the various MSS. of the "Nights" cannot altogether preclude the origin of the "interpolated" Tales. On the other hand, I felt convinced (cited p. 164) that all would be recovered, because, said Galland, "it is not the man to commit a literary supercherie.

While preparing for print the Gallandian tales early in 1857, I visited the Bibliothèque Nationale, where M. Zöppritz, keeper of the Eastern MSS., showed me a late purchase, containing the Arabic originals of Zayn al-'Amim and "Aladdin;" and he kindly lent me his own transcription of the latter. I need not pause to elaborate yet another proof which establishes the genuineness of the proofs which I have already given, and which I have detailed in the Foreword (pp. ix.-x.) to my "Supplemental Nights" (vol. iii.). The learned and genial author also favoured me with advance-sheets of his labours, especially his observations upon the MS. journals in the Bibliothèque Nationale (Nos. 15277 to 15290), which Prof. Galland kept till the end of his life. It appeared to me hardly fair to disclose at that time his main discovery, which was simply this: he had cleared up the origin of these important Gallandian tales by quoting detailed and transcribed conversations with M. Hanna (or Arna), Maronite of Haleb, alias Jean Dipp or Dippa, a French corruption. However, Mr. Zöppritz has given ample extracts in his Notice, still more has published the colophon upon the disputed question. The following is Galland’s manner of treating the matter:

"Samedi, 25 de May (1859). Le Maronite Hanna, qui m’a raconté le conte Arab qui fait : Un Sultan de Perse nommé Khshor-Khish n’est encore que Prince, qu’il se plaisit fort aux aventures nocturnes, ce c’est pour cela qu’il se déguise souvent pour les femmes, dans l’intérieur des palais; il n’a pas plus été succédé au Sultan son père, etc. C’est l’histoire des Deux Scours jalouse de leur cadet.

I may here again mention that M. Zöppritz empowered me to offer him Ali Al-Din to an "Oriental" publishing firm, well-known in London, and that the only result was the "no-public" reply. The mortifying truth is that those studies are now at their nadir in Great Britain, which has lost all interest in the Eastern world. Let me still hope, however, that the tirage à part, which is confined, I am told, to 150 copies, will, with the author’s permission, be several times in separate form, or, at any rate, among the periodicals of the Royal Asiatic Society, or of what seems now to be taking its place, the "Kamashshira."

R. F. BURTON.

SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

GENERAL LITERATURE.


COKELES, E. Prof et sons types de la littérature allemande. Munich, 1897.


LEGROUX, E. Soirées saisons de souvenirs. 1ère Partie.ѣ


OSTWALD, W. Geschichte der deutschen Hochschulen. 2. Th. Berlin: Verlag.

LEOCH, E. Soirées saisons de souvenirs. 1ère Partie.

THEOLOGY.


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HISTORY.