Anzeigen.

PANDIT DINANÂTHA VIDYÂLAŇKÂRA. The Vivâda-ratnâkara, a treatise on Hindu Law by Chandeśvara; edited by —. Calcutta, 1885—1887. Bibl. Ind., Nos. 549, 550, 588, 592, 599, 619, 630.

The learned editor of this useful and important work, in the Sanskrit Preface prefixed to it, refers to the fact that Chandesvara, the author of the Vivâdaratnâkara, made a present of his own weight in gold to an assembly of Brahmans in the year rasagunabhujachandraih sammite śâkavarshe, i. e. A. D. 1314. This statement has been taken apparently from the Praśasti to the Vivâdaratnâkara (pp. 670, 671). It had been used previously, as a means of fixing the date of that compilation, in Rajkumar Sarvadhikari's volume of Tagore Law Lectures, published in 1882. Mr. Sarvadhikari, referring to a 'Sanskrit College MS.', quotes it from Chandesvara's Preface to his work, whereas the present edition of the Vivâdaratnâkara, which is founded on three good MSS., has it at the close of the work only. This no doubt is its proper place, but the reading uttarah Somanâthah (p. 671) requires to be changed into Mr. Sarvadhikari's reading uttaram Somanâthât, the meaning being that the liberal act in question took place 'north of Somnath', which place has not been identified. Chandeśvara was the prime minister of king Harasimhadeva of Mithilâ (Tirhut), the renowned conqueror of Nepal, and Mr. Sarvadhikari has collected from other sources evidence tending to show that the reign of that monarch falls in the early part of the fourteenth century. The predecessors again from whose works Chandesvara has

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drawn or whose opinions he objects to, are all of them standard writers of the earlier centuries of the middle ages of India. Thus e. g. he mentions Asahâya, Medhâtithi, the earliest Commentator of Manu, Vijñâneśvara's Mitâksharâ, Halâyudha, and Lakshmîdhara's Kalpataru. We may note here by the way that Mr. Sarvadhikari has fallen into an error when he places Lakshmidhara 'between Chandeśvara (1314 A. D.) and Mâdhava (1361-1375)', and when he makes out Chandesvara to have been contemporaneous with Pratapa Rudra, the author of the Sarasvatîvilâsa. Lakshmîdhara, as pointed out by Mr. Sarvadhikari himself, is frequently referred to in the Vivadaratnâkara, and the Pratâpa Rudra, who wrote the Sarasvatîvilâsa, has been identified by Mr. Foulkes in his edition and translation of the Dâyabhâga section of that work, with the Gajapati King of Orissa, who reigned in the beginning of the sixteenth century A. D. Nor is Mr. Sarvadhikari right in referring the composition of the Madanapârijâta to the year 1231, and in identifying that work with the Pârijâta quoted by Chandesvara.¹

The Vivâdaratnâkara is one of the most comprehensive works of its kind, and simply invaluable as a collection of numerous Smriti texts never published hitherto. Together with other works of the Mithilâ school, which is among the earliest law schools of India, it has been used very largely by the writers of the Bengal school, as may be seen e. g. from Colebrooke's Digest. The print under notice does much credit to the care and industry adhibited by the editor. The text as printed by him is readable throughout, and we have noted a comparatively small number of misprints only. A MS. preserved in the Library of the Asiatic Society of Bengal has served as the principal foundation of this edition, but the editor has noted likewise the more important variae lectiones of two other MSS., and has added explanations of his own of a number of rare and obscure terms.

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¹ See, on this point, the Introduction to Professor BUHLER's Manu. S. B. E. xxv, p. cxxv, note 2.

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For the Smriti texts quoted in the Ratnâkara, the editor migh, have availed himself advantageously of the printed editions of the Smritis and of other Dharmanibandhas besides the Ratnâkara. The following are some of the corrections suggested by adopting this method. P. 46, text of Kâtyâyana, for abhyarditena read abhyarthitena. P. 53, Manu, for kritavyayah read krito vyayah; see Manu VIII, 166. P. 55, Brihaspati, for ujjâmâdikam in the text and Commentary, read uddhârâdikam. P. 69, Kâtyâyana, for vinmûtrasamjñâ read vinmûtraśankhâ. The former reading is supported by the Commentary however. P. 196, Nârada, for avîkshitam read avikshatam; see Nâradasmriti 1x, 2 (P. 160). The Commentary explains avikshitam by aparikshitam. This shows that the reading avikshitam is not a mere misprint; but the other reading is required by the sense and corroborated by the Vîramitrodaya, Colebrooke's Digest and other Lawbooks. P. 209, Manu, for sûnyâms cha vanagocharân read anyâms cha vanagocharân; see Manu VIII, 260. P. 345, Kâtyâyana, for narah read nripah. P. 354, Vishnu, for grihakudyâdyupajño read grihakudyâdyupabhettâ; see Vishnu v, 108. P. 354, Vishnu, for na cha tân yajyât read na cha tâñ jahyât; see Vishņu v, 114. P. 356, Yâjnavalkya, for vrikshakshudrapaśûnâm read vrishakshudrapaśûnâm; see Yâjñavalkya 11, 236. The clause kshudrapaśûnâm shows that vrisha is the true reading, though Chandeśvara must have read vriksha, as may be gathered from his gloss on this text. P. 360, Yâjñavalkya, for ashtaśato read ashtaguno; see Yâjñavalkya 11, 239. P. 443, Hârîta, for sûtrasavanam anishțvâ návaset read anusavanam ishtvá vaset. P. 446, Nárada, for svabhagam read subhrisam; see Nâradasmriti x11, 88 (P. 185). P. 615, Nârada, the second and third lines seem to be wrong and to have been inserted by an interpolator; see Nâradasmriti xvi, 7 (p. 215).

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