

**A SECOND REPORTS OF
OPERATIONS IN SEARCH FOR
SANSKRIT MSS. IN THE BOMBAY
CIRCLE, APRIL 1883 - MARCH
1884**

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A second reports of operations in search for Sanskrit MSS. In the Bombay circle, april 1883 - march 1884 by Peter Peterson

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PETER PETERSON

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APRIL 1883—MARCH 1884.

BY
PROFESSOR PETER PETERSON.

EXTRA NUMBER
OF THE
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EXTRA NUMBER.

A Second Report of Operations in search of Sanskrit MSS. in the Bombay Circle. April 1883—March 1884. By PROFESSOR PETERSON.*

FOR three months of the year under report I was absent from India, having been delegated by Government to attend on their behalf the Sixth International Congress of Orientalists, which assembled at Leiden in the month of September. During the remaining period of the year I was unable, on account of other duties, to go on tour in search of manuscripts, except in the short Christmas vacation. Of that I had previously determined to take advantage, in order to visit Alwar (Ulwar), a place to which my Jeypore friends drew my attention in 1882 when however I was unable to visit it, and which was one of several localities kindly indicated to me as likely to prove fruitful by Dr. Bühler, with whom I had the good fortune to be able to confer at Leiden. On the eve of starting I was sorry to learn that H. H. the Maharaja of Alwar, to examine whose library was the chief object of my intended visit, was, with Col. Peacocke, Political Resident, absent at Calcutta. Dr. W. W. Hunter's good offices there secured the immediate despatch of telegraphic instructions to the State officials to allow me access to the library as often, and for as long periods, as might be

* The Bombay Circle includes, besides the Presidency of Bombay, Rajputana, Central India, and the Central Provinces.

convenient to myself. For the prompt issue of these instructions I am greatly indebted to His Highness : as I am no less indebted to H. H.'s officers for the hearty way in which the instructions were carried out. I desire also to acknowledge very warmly the cordial welcome and the valuable help given to me by Dr. Mullens, the Residency Surgeon, who, fortunately for my object, had not accompanied H. H.'s party to Calcutta. Col. Peacocke was subsequently good enough to procure for me from the Maharaja's library the loan of several manuscripts I had marked as important, and with regard to which I shall have something to say in this Report. This is the second instance in which I have been, as the Government officer appointed under the instance of the Government of India to search for Sanskrit manuscripts in Rajputana, allowed not only to examine palace libraries, but to make a closer study in Bombay of selected books from these libraries. I venture respectfully to hope that Government will observe with satisfaction the liberal treatment I have thus met with, in that very important respect, at Udaipur and at Alwar.

I arrived at Alwar on the 26th of December, and was able to give almost the whole of the following five days to the work of going over the palace library. Mr. Eastwick, in his Handbook of Western Rajputana, speaks in high terms of the way in which this collection is kept : and I have certainly seen no library which can compare with it in that respect. Each manuscript is in a separate cloth, and an outside label, placed where it can best catch the eye, gives the name of the book and of the author. The manuscripts are arranged according to subjects in separate book cases : and bear numbers that tally with the admirable catalogue compiled by the present excellent librarian, Joshi Gangada. The tax we made upon this worthy gentleman's skill was no light one : as, in addition to my own party of four,* we were never without the assistance of three or four Shastris from the town engaged in examining such manuscripts as we could not ourselves overtake. Book after book was handed to each member of the party with a promptitude that would not have disgraced the best kept London library. Joshi Gangada's only regret evidently came when our work was finished, and we left the library to him and the

* Mr Bhagvandas Kevaldas and Mr Ramchandra, the Agent and Shastri of the Search, accompanied me on this visit to Alwar : and Pandit Durgaprasad of Jeypore was good enough to join me there. From all three I received very efficient aid.

seclusion which, it is to be feared, is its normal state. I think it worth while to dwell on this matter, because it shows how little, comparatively speaking, remains to be done to ensure the publication of a printed catalogue of this collection, which could not fail to be of interest to scholars at large. The co-operation of a trained scholar would be indispensable to give such a book the value it ought to have: but the mechanical and most irksome part of the work is done. I was much gratified, in the course of this short tour, to learn from Col. Stratton, Resident at Jeypore, that a similar suggestion, made in my First Report,* with regard to the Jeypore library, had caught his attention: and that the Jeypore Durbar had cordially acceded to his suggestion that such a work should be undertaken forthwith. It has now, I believe, made considerable progress. I hope the Alwar Durbar may be disposed to follow this example. If I can render any assistance in the way of advice or revision, I shall be most happy to do so.

The collection is not in its main portion an old one, having been formed chiefly by the enlightened Bani Singh, who died in August 1857. It is, as most Rajput libraries are, rich in astrological books. But the chief interest of the library lies in the very valuable and complete collection of Vedic books which it includes. Pandit Durgaprasad, at my request, wrote out from the catalogue the names of the books in this part of the collection, and added, from an inspection of the books themselves, the author's name, wherever that could be ascertained. The list so formed will be placed in the Appendix to this Report. I proceed now to give a short account of some of the books which I have been able to examine.

Among other manuscripts of the Rig Veda there are four, two of the Four MSS. of the Rig Veda. Samhitâ and two of the Pada text, which are described in the catalogue as belonging to the Śāṅkhāyana Śākhâ.† If this assertion is true, the Śāṅkhāyana

* No. XLI. of this Journal.

† In writing Śāṅkhāyana and not Śāṅkhāyana or the like I desire to suggest that it is not really necessary, and therefore is far from desirable to add to the confusion reigning in this dismal matter of transliteration, by attempting to represent consistently the various Indian signs for the modifications of the n sound in the middle of a word. That sound as a rule in the pronouncing cannot escape from the form imposed on it by the sound with which it forms a conjunct consonant. In uttering the words 'ink' and 'rent' we give voice, and cannot help doing so, to two forms of the, n sound, which in the Indian alphabet have different signs. But we suffer no inconvenience from the fact

redaction of the Rig Veda differs, as will be seen, from the Śākala redaction, the only one hitherto found, in very little. The khila hymns presented with the text in the Alwar book vary considerable from those of any MSS. of the Śākala Śākhā information with regard to which is accessible to me. Dr. Bübler has warned me that forgeries of the Śāṅkhāyana redaction, generally importations from the Deccan, are very common in Rajputana, and has also drawn my attention to the fact that the system of marking the accents is known to have been different in the two Śākhās. The Alwar copy of the Saṃhitā text, which I have had the opportunity of examining at leisure, is not a manuscript from the Deccan. The system of marking the accents however is the same as that with which we are already familiar, with one exception, which may be of some importance. Throughout part of one of the Saṃhitā MSS. the svarita accent is denoted by a horizontal line drawn through the body of the syllable, instead of the perpendicular line drawn above the syllable which appears in the rest of the book. This, it will be remembered, is the way in which the so-called dependent svarita is represented in the Maitrāyaṇī Saṃhitā. Have we here, then, a genuine survival of an historic method prevailing among the Śāṅkhāyanas which the copyists have elsewhere discarded for one more familiar to them?

The greater number of the khila hymns, as given in the first Alwar Saṃhitā manuscript, will be placed in the extracts to be appended to this Report. Such other variations from the printed text as I have come upon may be briefly noticed here. Khila I. (Aufrecht² II. 672) is not given. The first four verses of Khila II. are given as part of the sixteenth varga of the fifth adhyāya, second ashtaka. (See Extracts.) The two verses thus omitted from this version of the present khila are the two verses borrowed, as has been pointed out by Müller and Aufrecht, from the Mahābhārata. In the Pada MS. the varga ends as in the printed editions, and the khila is as usual not given. The MS. gave Khila III., but a page has fallen out at the place, leaving the gap अद्रं पत्रास्केपि (khila v. 1), . . . यद्दीर्घसानु (v. 6 of following hymn). It may be worth noting that the last verse of the preceding hymn (II. 43) is omitted, before this khila, in the Saṃhitā MS. The Pada MS. has the verse. The adhyāyas in the MSS. of the

that our alphabet has one sign for the two sounds: and much labour to writer and printer would be saved, if here and elsewhere we could hark back to the English model in this respect.