

Pāli Text Society.

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Journal

OF THE

PĀLI TEXT SOCIETY.

1894–1896.

EDITED BY

T. W. RHYS DAVIDS, PH.D., LL.D.,

OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, BARRISTER-AT-LAW,

PROFESSOR OF PĀLI AND BUDDHIST LITERATURE IN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,

LONDON.

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## REPORT OF THE SOCIETY.

1894-1896.

I AM very glad to be able to report to the Society the very substantial help it has received since the last report from enlightened friends of its difficult and important work. Mr. Henry C. Warren—and no one is better qualified to judge of the value of the work—has given the Society £50 towards its expenses. Another gentleman, for whom also I have the deepest personal regard, but who will not permit me to mention his name, has given the Society the sum necessary to pay for the printing of the third volume of the *Aṅguttara*; and Mr. Edward T. Sturdy, to whom the *Yogāvacara Manual*, issued herewith, is dedicated, has rendered possible at last the publication in English of an authoritative work on the Buddhist *Abhidhamma* by advancing the funds for the printing of the *Kathā Vatthu*, the *Attha Sālinī*, and the *Manual* just referred to.

It is impossible to speak too highly of these gifts from donors, none of them rich, as the world counts riches. While the rich look on with indifference, and the number of single guineas from scholars and libraries and friends is too small to keep the work of the Society afloat,<sup>1</sup> these

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<sup>1</sup> The individual subscribers entitled, for instance, to receive the present issue—those not in arrears with their guinea subscription for 1896—number just 10.

Each guinea that comes in costs me, on an average, between five and six letters.

gentlemen, with ability to see what the work means, and with a rare generosity, have saved the work from stopping by gifts that involve no little self-denial.

On the other hand, I have to regret that, owing to a disastrous fire at Messrs. Unwin Brothers' printing works, the work of the Society has been seriously delayed. Not only was the printed matter destroyed, but large portions of the "copy" also. This necessitated the editing over again of the texts already prepared for the press, a result which threw back our work for more than a year and a half.

Of the works concerned, one, the *Kathā Vatthu*, by Mr. Arnold C. Taylor, has now been completed again, printed, and issued to the Society. The other, the *Attha Sālinī*, by Prof. Ed. Müller, is now all in type again, and will be ready almost immediately.

Prof. Edmund Hardy has kindly come forward to fill the gap left by the lamented and premature death of Dr. Morris. One further volume of the *Āṅguttara*, edited by him, has been issued to the Society, the next volume is passing through the press, and the sixth and last will be made ready as soon as our funds allow.

M. Léon Feer is now seeing the fifth and last volume of the *Samyutta* through the press, and we hope to issue it for the year 1898.

Mr. Robert Chalmers is so far advanced with the second and concluding volume of the *Majjhima* that the first part of it is now issued to members of the Society, the second part is already in the press for 1898, and the third and last will be ready as soon as our funds allow. Mr. Chalmers hopes to give complete indexes to the whole work, not only of proper names and verses, but also of words and subjects—after the fashion set by Dr. Morris and followed in the *Sumangala*, the *Itivuttaka*, and other works.

Mrs. Bode's edition of the *Sāsana Vamsa* is passing through the press, and will be issued to members as part of the Society's publications for 1897.

I have no information as to how Prof. Lanman's edition of the Niddesa, or Dr. Neumann's edition of the Paṭi-sambhidā are progressing. Mr. Chalmers hopes, with the assistance of a lady who has kindly offered her services, to prepare an edition of the Vibhanga; and has already made considerable progress with Buddhaghosa's Papanca Sūdanī on the Majjhima; and Professor Hardy hopes to be able to give us the commentary on the Etadagga Sutta in the Aṅguttara, containing the lives of the principal members of the Order, contemporaries of the Buddha.

Of works not yet undertaken we hope to issue at least the Apadānas, the Netti Pakaraṇa, and the Peṭakopadesa, and the Thūpa Vaṃsa—none of them very long and all interesting and important works. When these and the works already in hand are finished, the whole of the most ancient historical records of one of the most important movements in the intellectual history of mankind—the early years of Buddhism—will be available, if not for the historian, yet for the Pāli scholar.

With that I hope to be allowed to consider the work as done, and to be able to devote to the study of the documents the time and the energy necessary for the very tedious and disappointing and thankless task—relieved, alas, too seldom by the receipt of generous gifts—of collecting the miserable moneys necessary to print them.