

history. Immediately after my return he charged himself with the detailed study and publication of all early Chinese records excavated by me, and subsequently very kindly allowed me to utilize the results of his painstaking labours for the present volumes. The perusal of almost any chapter dealing with ancient sites will show to what extent my interpretation of their past must depend on the materials thus made available to me. It is a special satisfaction to me to know that M. Chavannes' volume dealing with these early Chinese 'finds' will soon be ready for publication in advance of my 'Detailed Report.' M. Paul Pelliot, Professor at the Sorbonne and the successful leader of a French archaeological mission to Central Asia, has put me under a great obligation by undertaking the inventory of the thousands of old Chinese texts and documents from the Caves of the Thousand Buddhas.

Dr. A. F. Rudolf Hoernle, C.I.E., the pioneer of Central-Asian studies on the British side, has rendered me very valuable help by his preliminary analysis of all manuscript 'finds' in Indian Brahmi script, which are in one or other of the 'unknown' languages of Chinese Turkestan. It is reassuring for me to know that the analysis of the ancient wooden records in Kharoshthi script discovered on my second journey has been undertaken by the same highly qualified scholars, Professor E. J. Rapson, M. É. Senart, and the Abbé Boyer, who had already bestowed so much critical acumen and labour on the corresponding 'finds' of my first expedition. To the Abbé Boyer I am indebted besides for the decipherment of certain important Kharoshthi inscriptions. In regard to my Sanskrit manuscript materials I have enjoyed equally competent assistance from my friends Dr. L. Barnett and Professor L. de la Vallée Poussin.

For the analysis of the plentiful Tibetan records I had the good fortune to secure the collaboration of an exceptionally qualified expert, Dr. A. H. Francke, of the Moravian