1084 CAVE-TEMPLES & ANTIQUES OF THE THOUSAND BUDDHAS [Ch. XXV

suspension loops at top. Rough work, in fair condition. Length 1' 10" and 2' 3", depth 9\frac{1}{4}".

Ch. Iviii. 009. Paper painting with Chin. inscr., representing Bodhisattva Vajrapāṇi with donors. V. seated on lotus with legs interlocked; R. hand holding Vajra at breast, L. at hip the Vajra-topped bell; both emblems painted green. Dhyāni-buddha on front of tiara. Dress and orns. like Avalok.'s in *Ch. 00102, etc.; circular halo and vesica; flowery branch as canopy. Colouring dull red, green, pink, slate-blue, and yellow; rough work; condition good.

At bottom, donors standing; civilian in white belted coat and round black head-dress, with rosary and flask, on L.; monk in black and yellow robes, with censer, on R. In middle, narrow panel with name of Vajrapāṇi, between green cartouches with inscr. relating to donors (partly destroyed). $1'7\frac{5}{8}" \times 11\frac{1}{2}"$.

Ch. lviii. 0011. Large silk painting, representing Paradise of Amitābha (or Śākyamuni?). Side-scenes and extreme top and bottom lost; condition otherwise good. Composition and general treatment as in *Ch. lii. 003.

Pose of presiding Buddha as in *Ch. 0051. Bodhisattva on L. (Mahāsthāma) has R. hand also in vitarka-mudrā, L. hand held out horizontally palm up; the other (Avalokiteśvara) has hands in attitude of adoration. Attendant host consists only of Bodhisattvas, dancer, and musicians, without priestly disciples, but with subsidiary Buddhas and attendants on separate terraces in bottom corners.

The Bodhisattvas mostly have their hands in adoration. Six musicians play on lute, mouth-organ (teapot-shape), clappers, psaltery, and pipe; but the lutes have a rounder body than in *Ch. lii. 003, and head of one is bent at right angles and then again at right angles to take its former direction. On gangway going down to water before the dancer is a stand decked with scarves and streamers, and apparently carrying a two-handled jar containing scarlet lotuses and leaves. Amitābha's altar shows specially good example of draped valance, with triangular tabs and streamers, like Ch. 00278.

Rocks and lotus flowers rise from water; and though no infant souls are shown on latter, two with clasped hands, kneeling on lotuses, float up gangways on to terraces of corner Buddhas. In centre foreground a black-tiled raft or platform on which are assembled Garuda, peacock, crane, and a smaller bird, prob. duck, now destroyed. Less space than usual is devoted to Celestial Mansions, and in any case they are incomplete.

Workmanship is good and well finished, and surface on the whole excellently preserved. Prevailing colours are crimson, orange-yellow, putty-coloured grey, and white on dull green background; the white being largely used on decorated haloes and Padmāsanas, as well as for flesh of all attendant figs. There is a marked absence of black and blue, the floor of main terrace being dull green, and roofs of buildings very light brown.

Instead of usual band of lozenges, the Paradise was

separated from side-scenes by a running scroll of leaves and flowers, green and orange, on band of dark brown.

4' 2" × 3' 1". Thousand Buddhas, Pl. VIII.

Ch. lxi. ooi. Painted silk banner; considerably broken, but remains in fair condition. All accessories lost except head-piece and one side-streamer.

Head-piece of loosely woven white silk, sides continuous with those of painting, but pointed end bound with silk of deep bog green, $2\frac{3}{4}$ wide. Bare wooden stiffener passed across front, with ends thrust into binding; whole evidently a substitute for original top. At apex suspension loop of white silk strung with small iron (?) ring. The remaining side-streamer of pale lavender silk, doubled and sewn. Colouring well preserved.

Subject: Vaiśravaṇa, Guardian of the North, stands facing spectator on knee and shoulder of seated demon; weight thrown markedly on L. hip, R. foot higher than L. R. knee bent, and R. side much relaxed. R. hand above shoulder grasps long black staff of pike; L. gathers up folds of stole at hip; head leans over L. shoulder. Pose that of 'Indian' type of Lokapāla, Ch. xxvi. a. oo6 (see also General Note, *Ch. 0010), and dress a variation of same.

Scales of coat of mail are oblong, with nicked edge, on skirts, and seem from shading to overlap upwards; on body and upper arm they are round-edged. On skirts and body they are painted red and yellow; on arm red and green. Corslet red, tight-fitting, and comes down to waist, but most of it covered as in Ch. 0085 by wide breastplate, here pale yellow or white orn. with gold volute and boss orns. Heavy dark red and olive stole knotted to black hip-belt and draped across arms; ends of black and red mantle (?) seem to appear under chin. No flaps over hips, but white apron, trefoil-shaped, hangs from belt in front.

Skirts of coat of mail reach to knees, hiding all but floating ends of orange and white skirt and girdle. White breeches tucked into greaves and orn. with black leaf pattern on knees. Both greaves and arm-guards are painted in horizontal bands of red and white, separated by narrower bands of yellow; shoes black orn. with gold,

Face contorted in expression of rage, mouth wide open showing both rows of teeth, forehead contracted, and large round eyes with yellow eyeballs gazing fiercely to R. Ears elongated, with jewelled ear-rings. Flesh shaded with glowing orange-red on natural cream of silk. Head-dress a species of tiara, with red cap over crown of head, and at sides gold wing orns. and white streamers flying up. Three-lobed top-knot (black) rises above; rest of hair falls behind shoulders. Halo is pale yellow or white, paint now much lost, with crown of flame on top.

Demon is of monster type, painted dark red, with grey dhōtī, heavy necklace and ear-rings, and upright green hair. He sits erect, R. hand holding end of pike-staff on thigh, L. clasping Lokapāla's leg. Pike-head is a trident, all three points in this case present (cf. Ch. 0018, etc.); though the L. hand spike is shorter and has pennon attached. Brown cartouche for inscr. to R. of head, blank.