

minister of Akbar, the honour of having invented the modern land-revenue system of India. He, of course, merely modified and improved a system which had been in existence for centuries before his time. But he probably found the old Prakrit term *rājuka* in common use, and naturally enquired into its meaning, which he forthwith translated into Persian *sar-i rishta dār*. It is true that a modern sarishtadar's duties are no longer confined to settlement work, nor does he often condescend to hold the rope himself. But the rope is still used for measuring lands in settlement proceedings, where it has not been superseded by the bamboo *laggi*, or the more scientific Gunter's chain, and Dr. Bühler's explanation is undoubtedly the solution of the puzzle which has exercised so many English officers in India, why the highly respectable and experienced head of a large office should be designated by the simple title of "one who holds the end of a rope."—Yours truly,

JOHN BEAMES.

2. VIDYĀDHARA PĪṬAKA.

In the letter from Mons. Louis de la Vallée Poussin, in our last issue, readers are requested to correct the following misprints:—

- p. 435, lines 13, 23, *for* Tapās *read* Japās.
 p. 436, line 6, ,, correct ,, collect.
 ,, line 29 ,, Kangika ,, Kauṣika.

3. ARCHÆOLOGICAL RESEARCH.

SIR,—The discussion of Hofrath G. Bühler's proposals as to future Archæological Research in India ended without any definite vote of our meeting on June 11th; and I myself, speaking late and pressed for time, could say little. I have, therefore, the honour to offer the following remarks in black and white:—