characteristics of Mandarin generally and Pekingese in particular, he notices, in a brief manner, the most prominent letter changes observed by him in the dialects of Chi-nan fu, Ch'ing-chow fu and Chefoo. He then enumerates (in No. 4) the chief differences between northern and southern Mandarin, taking Nankingese as the type of the latter, and points out the errors commonly committed by foreign students of these dialects. The writer makes no pretensions of philological learning and gives simply his practical observations with a view to help other beginners.

Dr. Edkins puts forth (in No. 3) a very brief statement of the contents of the 'chief classic of Chinese medicine,' the Su-wen, which he dates back to the period of the Contending States (3rd or 4th centuries before Christ). Dr. Edkins, here also, finds Babylonian traces. He remarks that the Su-wen states in the most distinct language that the earth is round and suspended in space, whilst the Babylonians 'believed popularly in the umbrella theory of the heavens which thought of the sky as having a shape like a round boat turned over.' Dr. Edkins is now confident that 'to understand Chinese early astrology and medicine, with the geography of the Shan-hai-ching and the contrast between Tauism and Confucianism, the key is found in a knowledge of what the Babylonians taught and believed in their schools of learning.'

Mr. E. H. Parker continues (in No. 4) his 'Chinese account of Corea,' enlivened by playful but caustic footnotes of his own. An anonymous contributor furnishes (in No. 5) a series of extracts compiled from various sources, concerning the 'historical landmarks of Macao.' The present instalment gives promise of a fairly complete outline of the annals of Macao, the usefulness of which is materially enhanced by the fact that the compiler mentions, in each case, the source from which he derived his statements. Mr. Muirhead publishes (in No. 5) an 'in memoriam' of the late A. Wylie, by whose death China has lost one of its humblest and meekest but also one of its soundest scholars. The 'Notes on Chinese Literature' are a lasting monument of scholarship which will continue to evoke feelings of gratitude and admiration, for Mr. Wylie's patient plodding and thorough knowledge, on the part of every one who has occasion to refer to that book. This number of the Chinese Recorder contains also a reprint of the Marquis Tsêng's article, entitled 'China, the sleep and the awakening.'

E. J. E.

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