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Two New Manichaean Manuscripts from Tun-Huang

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TWO NEW MANICHAEAN MANUSCRIPTS FROM
TUN-HUANG

Among the numerous manuscripts brought back from Tun-huang by Sir Aurel Stein, and now preserved in the British Museum, Dr. Lionel Giles has found two Manichæan rolls of great interest of which he has very kindly ceded to me the right of publication.

One (No. 3969) is the beginning of the very same roll of which I brought back a small portion to the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris; the Paris fragment has been published and translated by Chavannes and myself in *Journal Asiatique*, 1913, i, 105-16. But here we have the title of the work 摩尼光佛教法儀略 *Mo ni kuang fo chiao fa yi lio*, or "Compendium of the religion of the Buddha of Light Māni", and the indication that the work was translated (or, rather, adapted) by imperial order in 731. A complete translation and a commentary will appear in an early number of the *Journal Asiatique*.

The other manuscript (No. 2659) is perhaps of still greater importance. It is a hymnal, in which the text of the hymns is sometimes translated into Chinese, but more often given in pehlvi written phonetically with Chinese characters. The work of putting back the Chinese transliteration into the original pehlvi will be an arduous one, but may finally prove to be of great service even for ascertaining the pronunciation of the pehlvi language in the seventh or eighth century.

PAUL PELLLOT.