with the Ghassānid confederacy. Epigraphical remains collected by de Vogüé¹ and others, show many bi-lingual inscriptions from N. Arabia in which one of the languages is Greek, so we cannot absolutely rule out the possibility that Greek words may have been borrowed directly into Arabic in the pre-Islamic period, as they undoubtedly were later,² but the Greek words in the Qur'ān seem nevertheless with few exceptions to have come into Arabic through Syriac.³

(iv) Indian.—It is somewhat difficult at times to decide what the philo-

logers meant by West Syrian ecclesiastical writers both in the pre-Islamic and early Islamic period commonly use the word of for South Arabia and Ethiopia, and Logor generally means Ethiopian even in the oldest literature. Thus in the famous passage, Jer. xiii, 23, "Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard change his spots," we find Logor used to translate the Hebrew (LXX 'A $\iota\theta\iota\sigma\psi$), and in the writings of Dionysius of Tell Mahre, and Michael the Syrian, we find the S. Arabian and Abyssinian area called India. It was not only the Syriac writers, however, who made this confusion. Epiphanius in the fourth century details the nine kingdoms of India, and his mention among them of the Homeritae 10 and Azumitae 11 makes it obvious that he is referring to the Ethiopian Kingdom. Sozomen 12 and Socrates, in their accounts of the mission of Frumentius to convert the people of this Kingdom, speak of them as $\tau\hat{\omega}\nu$ I $\nu\delta\hat{\omega}\nu$ $\tau\hat{\omega}\nu$ $\ell\nu\delta\sigma\tau\hat{\epsilon}\rho\omega$, and so the term passed to the Latin writers and from them to the geographers of the Middle Ages. It is thus probable that in

early Arabic اللغة الهندية referred to the language of S. Arabia.

¹ La Syrie centrale, 1868-1877.

² e.g. لفثيط = λογοθέτης the Chancellor of the Byzantine Court (cf. de Goeje, Glorsary. p. 349); قندلفت = κανδηλάπτης from κανδήλα and ἄπτω (Dozy, Supplément, ii, 410); = στιχάριον, a sacerdotal robe (Dozy, Supplément, i, 21).

³ Dvořák, Fremdw, 25 agrees.

⁴ PSm, sub voc.

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⁶ In Assemani, Bibl. Or., i, 359 ff.

⁷ Ed. Chabot, ii, 183 ff.

⁸ Mingana, Rylands Library Bulletin, x, 445, gives quotations from other less-known writers.

⁹ Ed. Dindorf, iv, 179, 180, in the tractate Libri de XII Gemmis.

¹⁰ i.e. the 'Ομηρίται of Haer, Ixvi, 83.

¹¹ i.e. the 'Αξωμίται of Haer, lxvi, 83. 12 Hist. Eccl., ii, § 24.

¹³ Hist. Eccl., i, § 19. See also Philostorgius, ii, 6.

¹⁴ See Yule's Marco Polo (ed. Cordier), ii, 431 ff., and Noldeke, Sasaniden, 222 n.