



HIS HIGHNESS PRINCE BIDYALANKARANA.

We regret to record the sudden death of our Vice-President, His Highness Prince Bidyalankarana. Primarily a financier by profession, in which he rose to the high administrative offices of Comptroller-General and Vice-Minister successively, the late Prince had many other varied interests. He was associated for a considerable period with the philological side of state legislation; was President of the advisory committee of the Privy Council, initiated by the late King Prajadhipok as a preparation for constitutional government and served the government in many educational capacities. What, however, His Highness shone in more especially was in an academic line. He was for a long time on the Council of the Royal Academy of Letters, in which he eventually rose to be President. A most distinguished man of letters, who was equally acceptable to the taste of the connoisseur as well as the average reader of fiction and poetry, his writings ranged from popular short stories of good taste and due literary merit to long poems among which may be mentioned the first Siamese version of the romance of *Nala and Damayanti*, as well as an original poem called *Kanok Nalon*. His last great work, still unpublished, is the *Sam Krung*, an epic dealing with the history of the three Siamese capitals of Sukhothai, Ayudhya and Bangkok in verse.

Prince Bidyalankarana was an energetic contributor to our Journal. Among his much appreciated articles may be mentioned the *Pastime of rhyme-making and singing in rural Siam* (XX, 2), the *Ambrosial Confection* (XXV, 1), the *Buddha's Footprint* (XXVIII, 1), *Sebha recitation* and the story of *Khun Chang and Khun Phan* (XXXIII, 1).

