

THE
PHILOSOPHICAL REVIEW.

THE KANTFEIER IN KÖNIGSBERG.

ACADEMIC circles in Japan annually commemorate the lives of four sages: Buddha, Confucius, Plato and Kant. Nothing is allowed to interfere with the regular observance of appropriate ceremonies in their honor. The prestige of the great Königsberger was not shaken even by the passions aroused during the recent war. On every twenty-second of April his contribution to the philosophical and cultural progress of mankind is considered afresh and high tribute is paid to his achievements.

Nowhere else perhaps does Kant occupy quite so exalted a position. Nevertheless, there is abundant evidence that he is almost everywhere throughout the civilized world regarded as a figure of central importance. Of him it cannot be said that he was or is without honor in his own land. On the contrary, along with Copernicus he constitutes the pride of his own beloved East Prussia, and Germany as a whole attaches a unique significance to his philosophical formulations in the second and third no less than in the first of his critiques. Far beyond the confines of philosophical or even academic groups, his doctrines continue to be discussed, and great interest prevails in all enterprises that relate in any way to him. Twenty of the thirty-five local branches of the *Kantgesellschaft*, and a majority of its five thousand members as well, are to be found in Germany. These groups regularly celebrate the recurrence of Kant's birthday, and this is commonly done also by other scientific and literary organizations, as well as by universities and gymnasia. Celebrations of outstanding importance occurred during 1881, the centenary of the *Critique of Pure Reason*. In Germany especially there had