

THE LOTUS PLANTER.

A Brahmin on a lotus pod. Once wrote the holy name of God. Then planting it, he asked in prayer For some new fruit, unknown and fair.

ITALIAN ACADEMIES AND UNIVERSITIES.

Sicily claims the palm for having the first university in Italy. To Frederick the Second, King of Sicily, is the honor due of introducing the Italian language at his court (A. D. 1218).

The works of Aristotle, Plato, Homer, Demosthenes, became universally studied in the schools. Debating clubs, such as exist at Oxford and Cambridge, were established at the universities for the discussion of controversial points.

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