

Literary Intelligence.

Mr. F. E. Hall writes from America, in a letter dated Dec. 24th.

“ You may not be aware that a translation of the *Sūrya-siddhānta* is coming out in the Journal of the American Oriental Society. Part has appeared ; and the rest is ready for the press and will probably be published by next April.” The translation is made by the Rev. — Burgess, assisted by Professor Whitney. Mr. Hall elsewhere remarks, “ if I had Pundit Bápú Deva at my side, I think I could considerably improve it.” Our learned coadjutor will be glad to learn that the translation by his fellow editor, is in the press, and will soon be issued in the Bibliotheca.

Professor Müller writes from Oxford, in a letter dated April 1st.

“ The *Sūrya-siddhānta*, as you probably have heard before now, has been edited and translated (revised by Whitney) in the Journal of the American Oriental Society ; it seems very carefully done with diagrams and notes. Biot has lately published some articles in the Journal des Savans on Indian Astronomy, reiterating his opinion that the Hindus borrowed from the Chinese. Whitney believes it ; I shall never believe it ; as little should I believe that the Greeks borrowed their Astronomy from the Goths. You ask me to mention some works which are wanted for the Bibliotheca Indica. Would it be possible to prepare a complete edition of Kumārila ? He is a most instructive writer, and there are no complete MSS. of his Tantra-vārtika in any library in Europe. Is the Mahābhāshya ever to be continued ? The plan to publish the Vais'eshika Sūtras with commentary is a very good one. What could be done for the Purāṇas ? Could you get an edition of the Vāyu Purāṇa ? This seems to be one of the most original. However, the text of the Vishṇu Purāṇa too would be acceptable. If you think it possible to publish a collection of the Ūpanishads, excluding only the most modern compilations, that would be equally useful... The Library of the East India House is to be removed to the Board of Control ; happily it has been saved from being swallowed up by the British Museum. I hoped for a time we might have got all the MSS. for the Bodleian, but this was not to be... Aufrecht is going on with the Catalogue of our Sanskrit MSS., part of which is out, but I do not know whether it is in

the trade. His edition of the Unādi Sūtras is very useful and carefully edited. There is not much doing in Sanskrit on the Continent. ... I received the separate copies of the Essay on Writing which was inserted in the Journal. Böhtlingk has written an Essay in answer to my hypothesis, but it contains no new facts, and does not seem to me to remove any of the difficulties which I stated."

We have received during the present year two new parts of Messrs. Böhtlingk and Roth's Sanskrit Dictionary, which carry the work down to नावत्. It is seldom that we can detect any omissions in this excellent work; but we may venture to notice an oversight in the latter part. Under the word डम्बर we have only a quotation from the Mahābh., where it is a proper name, followed by the remark, "Welche Bed. hat aber das Wort, Mālatī-Mādhava 148-8?" The learned editors appear to have overlooked the fact that this obscure word is a favourite with Bhavabhūti. It occurs in the Māl-Mādh., p. 33 in the phrase डम्बरनामानः where the scholiast explains it by प्रसिद्ध (Prof. Wilson translates it "possessing names of note."). In the prologue to the Mahāvīrach. we have उडुम्बराः* in a similar sense. The use of this word in Māl. M., p. 148, 8,

जम्भाजर्जरडिम्बडम्बरघनश्रीमत्कदम्बद्रुमाः

is by no means so infrequent as the editors' remark would lead us to suppose. The same meaning (as applied to the blossoms of the Kadamba) occurs in an earlier part of this very play (p. 48, last line) in the lines

प्रथमप्रियावचनसंश्रवस्फुरत्पुलकेन संप्रति मया विडम्ब्यते ।

घनराजिनूतनपयस्समुच्चणवद्वकुलकदम्बडम्बरः ।

where the scholiast explains it by प्रपञ्च; and a parallel is also to be found in the Mahāvīracharita (Trithen's ed. p. 99, 17) where it is applied to the masses of clouds,

यदि संयताः कुन्तलाः

किमम्बुवहडम्बरैर्यदि तनूरियं किं श्रिया ।

C.

* So the Calcutta edition, explained by Pundit Tārānāth Tarkabāchaspati डम्बरमुत्कषेणधिगताः The London edition reads faultily उडुम्बराः.



Secretaries, The. 1861. "Literary Intelligence." *The journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* 29(II), 200–201.

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