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L. G. Mitt

BYTAL-PUCHISI;

OR THE

TWENTY-FIVE TALES

OF

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271
BYTAL,

Translated

FROM THE BRUJBHAKHA

INTO

ENGLISH.



BY

RAJAH KALEE-KRISHEN BEHADUR,

M. A. S., C. M. R. A. S., &c. &c.

Calcutta:

PRINTED AT THE SOBHA-BAZAR PRESS.

1834.

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TO
HIS EXCELLENCY
THE RIGHT HONORABLE
LORD W. C. BENTINCK,
G. C. B. & G. C. H.
GOVERNOR-GENERAL & COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF
FORT WILLIAM IN BENGAL,
&c. &c. &c.
THE GREAT PATRON OF HINDU IMPROVEMENT,
THIS WORK
IS VERY RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED
(WITH PERMISSION)
BY
HIS EXCELLENCY'S
MOST HUMBLE SERVANT,
KALEE-KRISHEN.

PREFACE.



The work which the Translator presents to the public in an English dress, is in high estimation among the Natives. The present translation does not pretend to elegance: it was undertaken as being calculated to exhibit the native mode of thinking and acting; all therefore that has been aimed at is fidelity.

The original of this work is *Sanskrit*, and as ancient as the period of the reign of the king Vicramáditya. The Bengáli version of it was made by the especial order of Mahá-Rájah Jaya-singha Sévál, Behádur, (the ruler of Jaanagar,) to Kavishwara, one of the courtiers of the Rájá. The work was afterwards rendered into *Brúj-bhá-khá* and printed in the Hindu year 1227.

The Translator believes, that the first version was made according to the original, and that the second has been done like the first; but he has not examined it scrupulously.

The Translator trusts to the indulgent consideration of his readers to overlook any deficiencies which may be discovered by the critical, from a regard to the motives by which he is induced to lay the present attempt before the public.

KALEE-KRISHEN,

Calcutta, Sóbhá-Bázâr, }
the 25th March, 1834. }

THE
BYTAL-PUCHISI.

Introduction.

IN ancient times there reigned a king, in the city of Dhára, by name Gundharva Séna. He had four wives, by whom he was blessed with six sons. When the princes grew up to years of manhood, they became renowned throughout the whole country for their great learning and warlike accomplishments. In process of time the old king died being full of days, and Shunkra his eldest son reigned in his stead.

This created great jealousy in the heart of Vicrama, a younger brother, who being very powerful soon gathered together a large body of warriors and gave battle to his eldest brother. Fortune declared Vicrama victor, and the dead body of his brother was found amongst the number of the slain. This event gave him an open passage to the throne, for none of his other brothers dared to oppose him. It might have been supposed, that the circumstance of his