

INDIAN MYTHOLOGY.

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ACCORDING TO THE MAHABHĀRATA,

IN OUTLINE

BY

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TO ELLEN MY WIFE
MY JOY AND MY LIFE
FOR HER GOOD-WILL AND LOOK
I DEDICATE THIS BOOK.

PREFACE.

If we are ever to find our way through the jungle of Indian Mythology which stretches over so many different places and times, and the prolixity of which is as great as that of Indian nature itself, and if we wish to arrive at a general survey of it, particularly at an exposition of it for the public at large that does not care or trouble to go into details, nor attend to disputed and contradictory matter, — then we must first have mustered and mastered the different stadia through which it has developed itself. Not until we have had correct and reliable reviews of these stages and have seen what all the different periods have in common, not until then will it be possible to compile a general Indian Mythology. For it will not do to mix up the different periods and call such a mixture or jumble Indian mythology.

Concerning the times of the Veda's we have already some good beginnings in

A. Bergaigne, *La religion Védique*. 1—4. Paris 1878—97.

A. Hillebrandt, *Vedische Mythologie*. 1—3. Breslau 1891—1902.