

**INDIAN POETRY: CONTAINING "THE INDIAN
SONG OF SONGS", FROM THE SANSKRIT OF
THE GITA GOVINDA OF JAYADEVA; TWO
BOOKS FROM "THE ILIAD OF INDIA"
(MAHABHARATA); "PROVERBIAL WISDOM"
FROM THE SHLOKAS OF THE HITOPADESA,
AND OTHER ORIENTAL POEMS**

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EDWIN ARNOLD

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"PROVERBIAL WISDOM" FROM THE SHLOKAS OF THE
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BY

EDWIN ARNOLD, M.A.

Author of "The Light of Asia;"

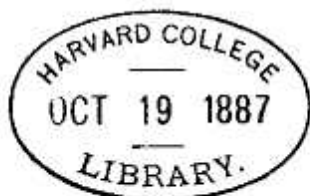
COMPANION OF THE STAR OF INDIA;
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FELLOW OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC AND ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETIES;
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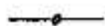
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THE INDIAN SONG OF SONGS.



INTRODUCTION.

OM !

REVERENCE TO GANESHA !

“ THE sky is clouded ; and the wood resembles

 The sky, thick-arched with black Tamâla boughs ;

O Radha, Radha ! take this Soul, that trembles

 In life's deep midnight, to Thy golden house.”

So Nanda spoke,—and, led by Radha's spirit,

 The feet of Krishna found the road aright ;

Wherefore, in bliss which all high hearts inherit,

 Together taste they Love's divine delight.

He who wrote these things for thee,

Of the Son of Wassodee,

THE INDIAN SONG OF SONGS.

*Was the poet Jayadeva ;
 Him Saraswati gave ever
 Fancies fair his mind to throng,
 Like pictures palace-walls along ;
 Ever to his notes of love
 Lakshmi's mystic dancers move.
 If thy spirit seeks to brood
 On Hari glorious, Hari good ;
 If it feeds on solemn numbers,
 Dim as dreams and soft as slumbers,
 Lend thine ear to Jayadev,
 Lord of all the spells that save.
 Umapatidhara's strain
 Glows like roses after rain ;
 Sharan's stream-like song is grand,
 If its tide ye understand ;
 Bard more wise beneath the sun
 Is not found than Govardhun ;
 Dhoyi holds the listener still
 With his shlokas of subtle skill ;
 But for sweet words suited well
 Jayadeva doth excel.*

(*What follows is to the Music MĀLAVA and the Mode
RUPAKA.*)

HYMN TO VISHNU.

O thou that held'st the blessed Veda dry
When all things else beneath the floods were hurled;
Strong Fish-God! Ark of Men! *Jai!* Hari, *jai!*
Hail, Keshav, hail! thou Master of the world!

The round world rested on thy spacious nape;
Upon thy neck, like a mere mole, it stood:
O thou that took'st for us the Tortoise-shape,
Hail, Keshav, hail! Ruler of wave and wood!

The world upon thy curving tusk sate sure,
Like the Moon's dark disc in her crescent pale;
O thou who didst for us assume the Boar,
Immortal Conqueror! hail, Keshav, hail!

When thou thy Giant-Foe didst seize and rend,
Fierce, fearful, long, and sharp were fang and nail;
Thou who the Lion and the Man didst blend,
Lord of the Universe! hail, Narsingh, hail!