

a single character (*ariki* or EGIR) and not two (KUR *kib*), while the character which follows, though written like *is*, turns out to be intended for *su*. Hence on the Reverse we have a list of mountains, of which the words which follow the ideograph of 'mountain' may be the names.

A. H. SAYCE.

Dahabia Istar, Luxor, Egypt.
December 31st, 1907.

P. C. RAY'S ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE MAHĀBHĀRATA.

P. C. Ray's English translation of the Mahābhārata is a convenient and useful work, and does credit to the translator, whose native language was Bengali and not English. It is, however, well known that in places it is not accurate, and sometimes partakes rather of the nature of a commentary than of a true rendering of the Sanskrit original.

In several passages the translator animadvert with considerable emphasis upon the defects of the older Bengali translation, made under the auspices of Raja Mahtab Chand of Burdwan. I have lately had occasion somewhat minutely to compare the long Śānti Parvan of the epic in its original form with the English translation, and I find that where the latter varies from the Sanskrit it agrees with the Bengali version. In fact, the English rendering seems to have been made from the Bengali and not from the Sanskrit. As an example take MBh. xii, 13144. The Sanskrit text runs—

Aniruddha iti prōktō lōkānām prabhavāvyayah.

The Bengali translation is—

*Aniruddha-rūpē ukta han ; tāhā haītē-i lōk sakalēr
utpatti o lay hay.*

The English rendering is, "He is otherwise called Aniruddha, and is the source of the Creation and Destruction of the universe."

Both versions are no doubt based on the commentary, but the English is a literal translation of the Bengali.

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January 30th, 1908.

THE NĀSIK HOARD OF NAHAPĀNA'S COINS.

The last number (lxii, p. 221) of the Journal of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society contains an account by the Rev. H. R. Scott of the Nāsik Hoard of Nahapāna's Coins, discovered in the early part of last year, over 9,000 of the coins being counter-stamped by Gotamiputra Sātakarni I, the conqueror of Nahapāna.

For a full account of this interesting and important find, numbering about 15,000 coins, readers must be referred to the Bombay Journal, but there are one or two points that might be noted and a conjecture hazarded.

The coins, Mr. Scott points out, represent the king as of various ages, "some of the faces being young enough to be twenty years of age and others old enough looking to be that of a man of seventy."

It will be remembered that this was the case with the four specimens, hitherto the only ones known of Nahapāna's coins, described by Pandit Bhagvanlal Indraji, the inference he drew being that the coins represented Nahapāna at different periods of his life.

Mr. Scott, with thousands to work upon, instead of four, sees strong evidence against this theory in the fact that not only do the faces vary in age but in every feature,