

not go further back than to the beginning of the sixth century before our era."

The direct result of the contact of the Hellenic races with nations of Indian origin at the time of the Macedonian expedition is wrapped in obscurity. In a scientific point of view the gain was probably inconsiderable, since Alexander did not advance beyond the Hyphasis, in the land of the five rivers (the Panschanada), after he had traversed the kingdom of Porus between the Hydaspes (Jelum), skirted by cedars\* and the Acesines (Tschinab); he reached the point of junction, however, between the Hyphasis and the Satadru, the Hesidrus of Pliny. Discontent among his troops, and the apprehension of a general revolt in the Persian and Syrian provinces, forced the hero to the great catastrophe of his return, notwithstanding his wish to advance to the Ganges. The countries traversed by the Macedonians were occupied by races who were but imperfectly civilized. In the territories intervening between the Satadru and the Yamuna (the district of the Indus and Ganges), an insignificant river, the sacred Sarasvati, constitutes an ancient classical boundary between the "pure, worthy, pious" worshipers of Brahma in the East, and the "impure kingless" tribes in the West, which are not divided into castes.† Alexander did not, therefore, reach the true seat

*tique des Représentations Zodiacales en Egypte*, 1846, p. 15 and 34. (Compare with these Ideler, *Ueber den Ursprung des Thierkreises*, in the *Abhandlungen der Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin aus dem Jahr 1838*, s. 21.)

\* The magnificent groves of *Cedrus deodvara*, which are most frequently met with at an elevation of from 8000 to nearly 12,000 feet on the Upper Hydaspes (Behut), which flows through the Pilgrim's Lake in the Alpine Valley of Kashmeer, supplied the materials for the fleet of Nearchus (Burnes's *Travels*, vol. i., p. 60). The trunk of this cedar is often forty feet in circumference, according to the observation of Dr. Hoffmeister, the companion of Prince Waldemar of Prussia, who was unhappily too early lost to science by his death on the battle field.

† Lassen, in his *Pentapotamia Indica*, p. 25, 29, 57-62, and 77; and also in his *Indische Alterthumskunde*, bd. i., s. 91. Between the Sarasvati in the northwest of Delhi, and the rocky Drischadvati, there lies, according to Menu's code of laws, Brahmavarta, a priestly district of Brahma, established by the gods themselves; on the other hand, in the wider sense of the word, Aryavarta, the land of the worthy (Arians), designates in the ancient Indian geography the whole country east of the Indus, between the Himalaya and the Vindhya chain, to the south of which the ancient non-Arian aboriginal population began. Madhya Desa, the middle land referred to in the text, see vol. i., p. 35, was only a portion of Aryavarta. Compare my *Asie Centrale*, t. i., p. 204, and Lassen, *Ind. Alterthumsk.*, bd. i., s. 5, 10, und 93. The ancient Indian free states, the territories of the "kingless" (condemned by orthodox