

pages each ! Two of the volumes of this series were devoted to prosody and lexicography and even these two, which alone he could bring out before his end came, elicited Max Müller's admiration. The lexical volume of this series which he brought out in 1884—the *Nānārthasaṁgraha*—is a thesaurus of homonyms based on nearly a score of old *Koṣas* of this kind, and their commentaries, including unpublished ones.

Borooah's English-Sanskrit Dictionary appeared in three volumes between 1877 and 1880, the second and third volumes carrying also his *Higher Sanskrit Grammar* and *Ancient Geography of India*. V. S. Apte, the Poona lexicographer, who followed with his shorter *Students' English-Sanskrit Dictionary* in 1884, in his Preface, said of Borooah's work, contrasting it with that of Monier Williams: "Mr. Anundoram Borooah's work is eminently *practical*: it abounds in quotations from several standard authors; the renderings are generally happy... A study of Mr. Borooah's work is a good treat for an advanced Sanskrit scholar..."

Each of these three English-Sanskrit Dictionaries of Monier Williams, Borooah and Apte has its good points and usefulness. By size, range and methodology, Borooah's deserves high commendation. In the Preface to his compilation, Borooah explains the principles and scheme followed by him and the ideas which he had tried to incorporate in it. A balance is kept in the selection of shades of meanings of English words and the incorporation of Sanskrit equivalents for them and the compiler has, without committing the excess of resorting often to coining new words, tried to cite near usages or parallels from the works of classical Sanskrit poets. Several of these last mentioned citations are not only apt and idiomatic but also form striking coincidences in the two languages. New words whose creation could not be avoided are coined with due regard to the genius of the language and in extreme cases, the author is not averse to retaining in Sanskrit garb the English word. "Idiomatic rather than literal" has been the guide-line in the citation of equivalents. For conserving and utilising better the space, he has omitted whatever could be got at by cross-reference or by consulting a book of Sanskrit grammar or a technical treatise. Profusion of compounds is a major characteristic of Sanskrit and as Monier Williams says in his Sanskrit-English Dictionary (Preface p. xii. 1st edn.), to omit them is to 'un-Sanskritise' the language. Here again Borooah has followed the middle path of showing a few select and typical compounds, allowing the user to make out, on his own, the others.

Monier Williams had already a good comprehension of these and other characteristics, difficulties and finer points in the style and genius of Sanskrit which, as he himself says in his Preface (p. vii), is 'peculiarly a language of poetry'. Apte considered Borooah more practical than Monier Williams but