

APPENDIX II.

AN EXPLANATORY VOCABULARY OF THE NAMES OF NOTED MYTHOLOGICAL PERSONS, &c.

अक्रूर Son of S'vaphalka and Gandhini', who took possession of the celebrated *Syaman-taka* jewel from S'atadhanvan when the latter was pursued by Krishna. When Krishna discovered that the precious jewel was in Akrúra's possession, he desired him to retain it. Akrúra then wore it publicly. It was he who conveyed Krishna and Balaráma to Mathurá where Krishna performed some of his great exploits.

अगस्त्य A great sage said to have been born of Mitra' and Varuna in a water-jar ; (hence called कुम्भोद्भव, कुम्भयोनि.) He is regarded as the pioneer of Aryan civilization in the South. Ráma who was his guest for some time was treated by him with the most distinguished tokens of respect and was presented with the bow of Vishnu, two inexhaustible quivers and a superb coat of mail which had been given to the sage by Indra. The Vindhya mountain once grew jealous and demanded that the sun should

revolve round him. This the sun declining to do, the Vindhya elevated himself higher and higher in order to obstruct the passage of the sun and the moon. The gods, alarmed, sought the aid of Agastya. The latter approached the mountain and requested him to bend down and afford him passage to the south, begging at the same time that the mountain would retain a low position till his return. This the mountain promised to do, but Agastya never returned and the Vindhya never attained the height of Himálaya. Agastya is known for having drunk the whole sea and for having eaten up and digested two demons of the names of अत्तापि and वातापि; owing to the latter incident his name is believed to have a digesting effect on the stomach. He is considered as the regent of the star *Canopus* in the south, and it is believed that his appearance in the sky makes turbid waters clear, (R. iv. 21, XIII. 36).