

Plants are supposed to have their presiding goddesses, and particularly so the nine plants which go by the name of *navapatrikā*, of which the *Aśoka Jonesia* is one. *Brahmānī*, or fire, is the goddess of *Kadalī*; *Lakshmī*, or prosperity, of *Dhānya*; and *Ṣokarahitā*, or grieflessness, of the *Aśoka*. This may account for the drinking of *Aśoka* buds.—Yours faithfully,

KHIROD CHANDRA RAY.

*To Professor Rhys Davids,  
Secretary to the Royal Asiatic Society.*

#### 7. THE JĀNAKĪ-HARAṆA.

DEAR PROFESSOR RHYS DAVIDS,—It may be of interest to some readers of the *Journal* to learn that the six verses (Nos. 1751–1755 and 1812) of the *Subhāṣitāvalī* which are attributed to a poet *Kumāradatta* can all be traced, together with the anonymous verse No. 1569, in the *Jānakīharaṇa* of *Kumāradāsa* (XI: 53, 59, 60, 73, 75. XII: 9. I: 28). Also the verse quoted in *Vāmana's Kāvya-lankāra-vṛtti*, ii, 1, 13, bears all the marks of the same authorship. On these and some other points connected with *Kumāradāsa's* poem I hope to be allowed to write a little more fully in a subsequent number of the *Journal*.—Yours very truly,

F. W. THOMAS.

Dec., 1900.