

**LOTUS AND JEWEL:
CONTAINING "IN AN INDIAN
TEMPLE", "A
CASKET OF GEMS", "A QUEEN'S
REVENGE". WITH OTHER POEMS**

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Lotus and Jewel: Containing "In an Indian Temple", "A Casket of Gems", "A Queen's Revenge".
With Other Poems by Edwin Arnold

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EDWIN ARNOLD

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Not complete

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CONTAINING

"IN AN INDIAN TEMPLE,"

"A CASKET OF GEMS,"

"A QUEEN'S REVENGE."

With Other Poems.

BY EDWIN ARNOLD, C.S.I.,

AUTHOR OF "THE LIGHT OF ASIA," "PEARLS OF THE FAITH," "INDIAN IDYLLS,"
"THE SONG CELESTIAL," "THE SECRET OF DEATH," "FORMS,"
"INDIA REVISITED."

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IN AN INDIAN TEMPLE.

IN AN INDIAN TEMPLE.

IT was a Temple, white and fair,
Piercing the warm blue Indian air
With painted cupola ; and set
High on a hill-side, where there met
Two streams — with sister-kiss of wave —
Which rippled lightly down, to lave
Our Deccan flats, gliding to grow
Beema — and Kistna next — and flow
By many a peopled plain and lea
Into the Coromandel sea.
And all along those shining banks
Neem and acacia trees in ranks
Shaded the flood, making cool homes
Of leafy peace for all that comes
To river-side, the pheasant-crow,
The jay, the coppersmith whose blow —

In his green smithy stoutly plied
Ringing from dawn till eventide —
Falls "klink, klank, klink," upon the ear;
And social weavers who, from fear
Of thievish snakes, their nests suspend
Swinging from every branchlet's end:
There, too, the nine brown sisters talked;
The silver-feathered egret stalked;
The *muchi-baug* — "tiger of fish" —
Shot from the air with arrowy swish
And soared again — his pearly prey
Clutched in red talons. All the day
You heard the necklaced jungle-dove
Cooing low songs of ceaseless love;
While, brooding near, his listening wife
With soft breast warmed her eggs to life;
And, from the hot vault of the sky
The circling kite made fierce reply;
For Love and Hate were neighbors still
Even upon that holy hill!

Yet, in the Temple all seemed peace.
There — sitting upon Shiva's knees —