

streams in the three continents of the Eastern Hemisphere, and even designates the sea itself in certain tongues, becomes, with the prefix of the article, by virtue of a strange forgetfulness on the part of the Greek, not more definite or particular, but a general term for every river that flows. That the word is not confined to rivers is, however, evident in Potamia, a district of Paphlagonia,<sup>98</sup> and Potamus an Attic deme of the tribe Leontis,<sup>99</sup> which reproduce BATHAM and PITHOM of Arabia and Egypt. The *nuphar* of ATHOM and the *padma* of Lakshmi appear indeed in the Greek lotus of many ancient memories; but the very Sanskrit *padma* lives again in the *butomus*, a name originally denoting a water plant, and now applied to an order of aquatics presenting certain evident points of analogy with the water lilies, among which the lotus is found.<sup>100</sup> Besides the *Potamoi* of Homer, various Greek heroes and demi-gods have been mentioned who represent in the language and mythology of their country the Egyptian ATHOM or THAOM-RA, the Arabian YODHAM and the Indian Yotma or Adima. Did space permit I might show that in this ancient word the oldest traditions of India and Greece, of German and Celtic nations unite, so that on Egyptian ground Buddha and Cadmus, Odin and Hu may be brought to unity. Finally the name Potamon is not unknown to Greek mythology. In him we may expect to find the hero real or imaginary after whom the Paphlagonian district, the Attic deme and the whole tribe of rivers were called. Apollodorus had a true tradition of the origin of the name, and makes assurance doubly sure by calling him Potamon, the son of Ægyptus.<sup>101</sup>

<sup>98</sup> Id. xii., 3, 41.

<sup>99</sup> Id: ix., 1, 22.

<sup>100</sup> Lindley's Vegetable Kingdom, 208.

<sup>101</sup> Apollodori Bibliotheca, ii., 1, 5.