

Teutonic deity Wodan or Odin."³³ Professor Müller is aware that Sir William Jones was not alone in this belief; but that, together with other orientalists, a large number of northern European mythologists, and among them, some who possessed far greater opportunities of judging in the matter than Sir William Jones, have homologated the opinion of that distinguished father of Eastern learning. I have looked into some, and carefully studied other works to which Professor Müller refers the student of Buddhism, such as the Rev. Spence Hardy's Manual; and although such studies have left me in doubt as to the time when the Buddhist system was fully organized, they have confirmed me in the belief that away in the distant past, long before that period of development, there lived a Gotama Buddha, who is identical with the German and Scandinavian Odin. At present, however, we are not dealing with mythology, but with that language of which Professor Müller fancifully calls it a disease. The same writer says truly "God was most likely an old heathen name of the Deity."³⁴ Now we are acquainted with the old heathen names of the Deity among the northern peoples who make use of this word; and the nearest to it of these names is that of the Lombard and Westphalian *Guodan*.³⁵ In the Germanic languages the name appears in such forms as to show either that the initial *g* is not an essential part of the root, or that it marks the original presence of a letter similar to the Hebrew *y*, which might be retained as a broad vowel, a simple breathing, or a guttural. I hold to the latter opinion, and find the rendering by the broad vowel in Odin, Oden, Oðinn of the Scandinavian. Grimm connects Gwydion, son of Don, of the Welsh mythology⁴⁰ with Odin, making them the same person. It is hard to distinguish this personage from Æddon, who is Buddwas, and who came originally from the region of Gwydion.⁴¹ Æddon presents us with the same form of the root as Odin, while Gwydion is guttural, like Guodan. The prefix of

³³ Chips from a German Workshop, Vol. i., Art. ix., on Buddhism, Art. xi., Letter on the Meaning of Nirvana.

³⁴ Science of Languages, Series ii., Lect. vi.

³⁵ In Florence of Worcester's Chronicle, A.D. 849, it is said of Gaetwa, an ancestor of Woden, that the pagans formerly worshipped him as a god. The Church Historians of England, London, 1853, Vol. ii., Part i., 209. The same statement is made by the historian, Nennius, who calls him Gaet. Six Old English Chronicles. Bohn, 396.

⁴⁰ Grimm, Deutsche Mythologie, 137.

⁴¹ Davies, British Druids, 118.