

EDITOR'S NOTE

SIR GEORGE W. COX—to give him the title he claimed—a scholar of great attainments, was born at Benares in 1827. He came of a very active family. His father, Captain George Hamilton Cox, was in the East India Company's service. His mother, Eliza Kearton, was the daughter of a West India planter. A brother, Colonel Edmund Henry Cox, of the Royal Marine Artillery, had the distinction of firing the first shot against Sevastopol in the Crimean war. Cox came to England in 1836, was sent to school at Bath and Ilminster, and became a Rugby boy, under A. C. Tait, in 1842. The following year he won the senior school scholarship, and two years later he was elected scholar of Trinity College, Oxford. This gave him his classical groundwork, and his adventures after Oxford were such as to quicken his experience of men. He served as curate at Salcombe Regis, went as chaplain in 1851 to Gibraltar, and later to Africa with John William Colenso, Bishop of Natal. One of the fortunate events of his life was his association with Edward Augustus Freeman, the historian, with whom he wrote, in 1850, his first book, *Poems Legendary and Historical*. This title both indicates Sir George Cox's literary bent, and offers us the key to his career. All his life he devoted to writing histories and legends, and while his histories have gone by the board, his books on mythology still hold their own. And this may be regarded as a tribute to his literary ingenuity and to his tale-writing powers. In dealing with mythology, he followed Max Müller, though with a note of individuality. In 1877 Cox applied for the baronetcy of Cox of Dunman-