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our first book. The peculiar difficulty in trying to interest the Am. public in Indian myths, as compared with the task of popularizing European myths, consists in the fact that Indian myths have originated in an utterly alien race which was on an infinitely more primitive cultural level than the people who wrote the versions of European myths which we know. It will be necessary therefore to stress those features in the Ind. myths which are intelligible for the Am. public & with which they can sympathize, namely the feelings & emotions of a universally human nature & also the environment which they, ^(the myths) more or less distinctly reflect, namely American nature, which we have a right to expect the reader of our own race to know and to love.

It may also be advisable to keep the experiences of our first book in mind. That means, first of all, that I need a great deal of time.

The selection of the passages in a Ms. that should be illustrated gives me no trouble at all. I usually find those passages at the first reading. The technique will bother me less than in the first book, as I shall keep in training for the pen- & -ink work. But the new difficulty of finding an appropriate form (style) to express such a remote thing as an Indian myth may require a considerable amount of thought & time, also the task of finding ^{& ethnographically approximately correct} appropriate decorative designs for all the myths.

In view of these difficulties I would be glad if you would let me know as soon as you have decided upon the first myth you will use. If that myth is not readily accessible for me in the original text