Preface

I cannot account for my interest in Tennyson’s poetry. Unlike my classmates I had a deep penchant for Victorian Poets. Having completed my M.A. I was in search of a topic for Ph.D. Although I went through the works of a number of poets and novelists, yet my voyage came to its conclusion when I got the complete works of Tennyson. I finally decided to take up my long favorite poet for research. In the beginning I was confined to a few aspects of this Poet Laureate of the Victorian England viz his metrical art, the lyrical quality of his poetry, the Victorian temper in his works. Meanwhile I came across an article ‘Evaluation of literature through Indian Epistemology’ published in the University News (Feb.7, 1994) by Dr. Man Mohan Lal Goswami. I contacted Dr. Goswami who had been very close to my father. He was kind enough to accept me as a research scholar under his supervision. He told me how to interpret Tennyson’s poetry in the new light of Indian Epistemology.

Indian Epistemology covers the psychometric foundations as well as the synthesis of emotions and assimilation of experience at the same time. Indian psychophilosophical systems are based on the deepest experiences and these levels of experience and cognitive domains have been applied in Tennyson’s poetry. In the first chapter I have endeavoured to demonstrate the epistemological rudiments of poetry. Literary creation is as instinctive to human nature as literary enjoyment that transports the mind of the reader to an artistically simulated microcosm. And there is an identical uniformity between the macrocosm of the universe and the microcosm of literature. The second chapter depicts the psychology of the human mind, which is the treasure house of emotions and sentiments. These emotions are varified by the guna theory. The language of images covers the third chapter and also manifests the collage of symbols and metaphors. While as, the fourth chapter consists of the metrical representation of time and space. The various kinds of time and space which literature occupies within its internal contexts have been explored. Ego is the nucleus of poetry and the expansion and contraction of ego has been dealt with in the fifth chapter. The sixth chapter observes the flight of imagination which exhibits two facets- Kinetic and Static. The
last and the seventh chapter summarises the epistemometric parameters and indicates its future value.

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks and sincere gratitude to Dr. Man Mohan Lal Goswami for his learned supervision and guidance at the initiation, progress and conclusion of the thesis work. Many of the books, I have mentioned in my bibliography, I could find only in his personal library, which is a good store of Indian philosophical books. I acknowledge the help, advice and guidance rendered by the Principal and English department of B.V. College, Farrukhabad. esp. Dr. S. Swaroop, Dr. S.K. Gupta and the librarian Ramesh Chandra Pandey.

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Finally I am greatly indebted to my father Sri Hari Mohan Rastogi and mother Mrs. Neelam Rastogi for their constant support to me and moreover I sincerely acknowledge the help and co-operation of my brother Engineer Anurag Rastogi, IES (presently a Lecturer in Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani) who remained encouraging me throughout my research work.

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