

every respect. The lord of mountains too is blessed. Every thing connected with me is blessed.

43. Her would-be-husband is the lord of these leaders of great lustre whom I have seen now.

44. How can I describe her good luck even in hundred years ? It is impossible to describe it when I see the lustre of these leaders.

*Brahmā said :—*

45. Thus spoke Menā with her mind full of love and hope. By that time Śiva, the wonderful source of enjoyment and protection, came that way.

46. He showed himself in his real form free from change of illusion. O dear, the Gaṇas of wonderful forms proved to be the dispeller of Menā's pride.

47. O sage Nārada, on seeing Him come, you lovingly pointed him out to her as the bridegroom of Śivā and spoke to her.

*Nārada said :—*

48. This is Śiva Himself, O comely maiden, see. It was for him that Pārvatī performed a great penance in the forest.

*Brahmā said :—*

49. Thus addressed by you the delighted Menā stared at the lord with joy; the lord Īśāna of wonderful features and of wonderful attendants.

50. Immediately the army of Śiva came there consisting of wonderful arrays of Bhūtas, Pretas and Gaṇas.

51. Some were in the form of violent gusts of wind, producing hissing sounds with waving flags. Some had crooked faces. Others were deformed.

52. Some were awful with overgrown moustaches and beards. Some were lame. Some were blind. Some held staffs and nooses and some great iron clubs in their hands.

53. Some rode on peculiar vehicles. Some played on