

worshipped by the sages and resorted to by persons following the paths of action and knowledge.

10. O mountains, at my word you will be assuming the forms of phallic emblems, the special forms of Śiva. There is no doubt about it.

11. My maternal grandfather, the excellent mountain Himavat, will become the fortunate bestower of fruits to ascetics.

*The gods said:—*

12. By killing Tāraka the lord of Asuras, and by granting bōons thus, all of us including the mobile and immobile beings have been made happy by you.

13. Now, it behoves you to go to Kailāsa with great pleasure, to the abode of Śiva in order to see your mother and father Śiva and Pārvatī.

*Brahmā said:—*

14. After saying thus and obtaining his permission, Viṣṇu and other gods went jubilantly to that mountain along with Kumāra.

15. When the lord Kumāra started to Kailāsa, the abode of Śiva, sounds of “Victory” arose indicating great auspiciousness.

16. Kumāra got in the richly decorated aerial chariot that shone above all the things.

17. O sage, with great pleasure, Viṣṇu and I held the chowries aloft above the head of the lord with alertness.

18. Indra and other gods, rendering suitable service to Kumāra went ahead joyously flanking him on all sides.

19. They reached Śiva’s mountain crying shouts of victory to Śiva. They entered the precincts with delight. Auspicious sounds arose.

20. On seeing Śiva and Pārvatī, Viṣṇu and other gods bowed to Śiva with devotion and stood there humbly with palms joined in reverence.

21. Kumāra descended from the aerial chariot in all humility and bowed joyously to Śiva and Pārvatī seated on a throne.