

not rule firmly he will be harrassed by the subjects. He cannot be a protector.

Brahmā said :—

11. On hearing the words of Śiva and after consulting one another they replied one by one. They were so afraid of the great lord.

Viṣṇu said:—

12. Let those who have concealed your semen incur the sins of those who utter lies, of those who outrage the modesty of preceptor's wife, and of those who are engaged in insulting the preceptor always.

Brahmā said:—

13. Let him who has concealed your semen anywhere in the holy centres of Bhārata be debarred from the privilege of serving or worshipping you.

The guardians of the quarters said:—

14. Let him who has concealed your semen suffer continuously from the pang as a result of that sinful action.¹³⁸

The gods said:—

15. Let him who has concealed your semen incur the sin of that stupid person who does not fulfil the promise he himself has made.

The wives of the gods said:—

16. Let her who has concealed your semen be deprived of mother and kinsmen and incur the sin of those base women who hate their husband and carry on an affair with another man.

Brahmā said :—

17. On hearing the words of the gods, Śiva the lord of the gods threatened Dharma and others the cosmic witnesses of all activities.

138. The original of this translation is defective.