

37. After saying thus to the gods I hastened to the demon Tāraka. I addressed him thus.

*Brahmā said:—*

38. You are ruling over our heaven which contains the essence of all brilliance. You are desirous of getting more than what you bargained for at the time of your penance.

39. I granted you a boon but not the kingdom of heaven. Hence leave off this region. You can rule over the earth.

40. O best of Asuras, even there you can achieve the fruit of your activities as here in Devaloka. There is nothing to hesitate in this matter.

41. After thus exhorting the demon to leave off heaven I, the lord of all, remembered Śiva and Śivā and vanished from the scene.

42. Leaving the heaven, Tāraka descended to the earth. Stationed in the town Śoṇita, he ruled over the entire kingdom.

43. On hearing my words, the gods bowed to me and went to Indra's abode. They were duly received by Indra.

44. After reaching there and consulting one another, the gods in a body lovingly told Indra.

*The gods said :—*

45. "O lord, you should carry out the suggestions of Brahmā and see that Śiva is lovingly inclined towards Śivā.

*Brahmā said :—*

46. After explaining every thing to the lord, the gods went in all directions to their respective abodes with great pleasure.