

20. O Brahmā, you had five faces formerly. When you exhibited your haughtiness against Śiva, He made you four-faced.³¹³ It is surprising that you have forgotten it.

21. O Indra, don't you know the valour of the great lord ? Śiva had once ruthlessly reduced your thunderbolt to ashes.

22. O devas, don't you know the valour of Mahādeva, O Atri, O Vasiṣṭha, O, sages what have you all done here ?

23-24. Once the lord wandered (begging for alms) in Dāruvana³¹⁴. You, sages, cursed him in the guise of a mendicant. How is it that you have now forgotten what Śiva did on being cursed by you ? The entire universe of the mobile and immobile was burnt by His Liṅga.

25. All of you, Viṣṇu, Brahmā, gods, sages and others have turned foolish since you have assembled here without Śiva.

26. Śiva of controlled speech, knowable only through self-realisation cannot be understood by anyone with the help of only Vedas with their ancillary adjuncts and other sacred texts.

Brahmā said :—

27. Thus the infuriated Satī, the mother of the universe spoke many words with her heart in distress.

28. Viṣṇu, gods, and sages kept silent on hearing her words, though their minds were distressed on account of Śiva.

29. But Dakṣa on hearing those words of his daughter looked at Satī cruelly and said thus to her.

Dakṣa said :—

30. Gentle lady, nothing shall be gained by your

³¹³. See Note No. 43. P. 58.

³¹⁴. Dāruvana or Dārukāvana which contains the temple of Nāgeśa, one of the twelve Jyotirlingas of Śiva has been identified with Aundh in the Nizām's territory (Arch. Sur. Lists of Nizām's Territory XXXI. 21, 29). Another vana of the same name also stands at the following places : (1) In the Himālayas near Badrinath (Mbh. XIII. 25. 27) (2) Near Vijayeśvara in Kāśmīr (H.C. 10.3). Due to these variations it is not possible to ascertain the exact locality of Dāruvana in the present context.