

by Brahmā, the lord of the people, at the hands of the boy born of Śiva. the great Yogin.

35. O dear friend, this task must be achieved by you diligently. Then we, the gods, can be very happy.

36. It will be beneficent to me. It will render the whole world happy. Realising the duties of a friend you are now to act.

37. Śiva is at present engaged in a great penance. The supreme lord is always independent. It is not to achieve any desire that He performs the penance.

38. For the sake of gods, at the bidding of her father, Pārvatī is attending on Him, I hear.

39. O Kāma, you shall certainly do everything necessary to bring about an interest in her in the mind of Śiva who has self-control.

40. You will become contented after this. Your miseries will be destroyed. Your exploit will be permanently established in the world. Not otherwise.

Brahmā said :—

41. On being thus addressed, Kāma was glad, his face beaming like a full blown lotus. He lovingly said to the lord of gods, “I shall undoubtedly do it.”

42-43. After saying this when he said “So be it” he said “yes.” Kāma accepted it because he was deluded by Śiva’s illusion. Accompanied by his wife and Spring he went to the place where Śiva, the Yogin, was performing penance.

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

(Description of the perturbation caused by Kāma)

Brahmā said :—

1. After going there, the haughty Kāma, deluded by Śiva’s magic power, stationed himself, after first spreading the enchanting power of Spring all around.

2. The enchanting influence of Spring spread every-