

laughter making all blush with shame, the full-emblemèd deity spoke these consoling words.

*Śiva said :—*

39. Alas ! O Brahmā, how is it that you were overwhelmed with lustful feelings on seeing your own daughter ? This is highly improper for those who walk on the line of the Vedas.

40. Sister, brother's wife and daughter are like one's mother. A sensible man shall never look at them with a reprehensible vision.

41. The conclusion of the path of the Vedas is present in your mouth. O Brahmā, how is it that you forgot that under the influence of momentary passion ?

42. O, four-faced deity Brahmā, your mind shall always remain alert in fortitude. How did you undo it for the sake of dalliance in love ?

43. How is it that your mental sons, Dakṣa, Marīci and others who practise yoga in isolation and see the inner light for ever have become enamoured of woman ?

44. This Kāma is a fool, deficient in sense and ignorant of proper occasion. How is it that he has begun to torment them with excessive power ?

45. Fie upon the learning of that person whose wife draws his mind inordinately from steadiness and courage and immerses it in fickle revelries.

*Brahmā said :—*

46. On hearing these words of Śiva, I, the lord of the world, perspired profusely in an instant, on account of shame.

47. Although the desire to seize Sandhyā of wishful features still lingered, O sage, I curbed the upset senses, fearing him (Śiva).

48-49. O excellent brahmin, from the drops of sweat that fell from my body rose the manes who did not perform the sacrifices while they were living on earth, who shone like split collyrium, had eyes resembling the full-bown lotus, were meritorious ascetics and were averse to worldly activities.

50. These were sixty-four thousand in number, O sage,