

*Brahmā said :—*

24. On hearing that voice of the sky, and seeing those ill omens, Dakṣa was terribly afraid. The others—devas etc.—too followed suit.

25. Trembling miserably and utterly shaken, Dakṣa sought refuge in Viṣṇu, the consort of Lakṣmī and his own lord.

26. Making humble obeisance in his fright, and eulogising in his mental distress, he said thus to Viṣṇu endearing to his own men.

## CHAPTER THIRTY-FIVE

(*Viṣṇu's statement*)

*Dakṣa said :—*

1. O Hari, Viṣṇu, lord of devas, friend of the poor, storehouse of mercy, you must protect me and my sacrifice.

2. You are the guardian of sacrifice. You are identical with the activity of sacrifice, the performer of sacrifice; O lord, be merciful, let not the sacrifice be destroyed.

*Brahmā said:—*

3. Thus submitting entreaties of diverse sorts with great respect, in his mental agitation due to fear, he fell at his feet.

4. Viṣṇu raised Dakṣa of agitated mind and on hearing the words of that evil-minded one, Viṣṇu remembered Śiva.

5. After remembering Śiva his own lord, Viṣṇu, the knower of Śiva's principles, said thus, addressing Dakṣa :—

*Viṣṇu said:—*

6. Listen, O Dakṣa, I shall explain everything true to fact; listen to my words which are as efficacious as mantras, beneficent and pleasing.

7. Not knowing the principle of Śiva, the great Self and lord of everything, you have insulted Him.

8. By insulting Him, not only does every activity