

Some wicked man possesses splendour (appears good & amiable) from the beauty of his master (or patron, *iti*, the person he depends upon), like foul (black) collarium when put into their eyes by young women.

After reflection, he says—Alas ! What is this that has come to pass ! For,

A king, though served with assiduity, may not be pleased ; where is the wonder in this ? But this is some strange pattern of creation, who being served is turned into an enemy !
So this is a matter (*iti*, something to be understood by inference) which it is impossible to understand. For,

He who is displeased having some cause in view, is, indeed, pleased when that (cause) is removed ; but how can a man please him whose mind harbours enmity without cause ?

What wrong did I do to the king ? Or rather, kings are wont to do injury without any cause. Damanaika observed—It is just so. Listen—

Even an act of kindness, done by man eminently learned and affectionate, becomes hateful ; while an actual injury done by others is just regarded with pleasure : on account of difficulty of understanding the minds of kings which are unsteady (*iti*, not the abode of one feeling) ; the duty of servitude is extremely difficult, not to be comprehended even by Yogis (those who have attained superhuman powers).

Moreover,
A hundred obligations (or, services rendered) are lost upon the wicked ; a hundred une speeches upon the illiterate ; a hundred words of advice upon those who would not act up to them ; and a hundred counsels on the senseless. Again,

There are serpents on the sandal trees ; lotuses grow in water wherein there are also alligators ; and when one is in the enjoyment of a thing there are villains to obscure one's good qualities ; (so) pleasures are not without obstructions ! And further, — 160.

259. The root is infested by serpents, the flowers by bees, the branches by monkeys and the tops by bears ; thus there is nothing belonging to the sandal tree that is not resorted to by very cruel and murderous animals.

As for our master, I have known him to be honeyed in speech but carrying poison in the heart. For,