

other encouragingly the words of the stanza. The famous hymn RV. iii.33 involves a situation which is similar (Muir, i².338), and, indeed, familiar elsewhere (Hebrews xi.29; Hdt. viii.138).

The stream is stony. Hold ye well together.
Your footing keep. On! make your crossing, comrades!
Thère let us leave them in a mood unhappy,
While we go out and on to happy conquests.

SELECTION LVIII. RV. x.85.36, 24-26, 32-33, 27, 43-47. The wedding-hymn. — The stanzas are here given in the order in which they are rubricated at 98^{19f} — see p. 398. Their uses in the ritual are discussed by Haas in his treatise on the ancient wedding customs of India, IST. v.267-412.

—The hymn is called the *sūryā-sūkta* or “The marriage of Soma and Sūryā,” and has received at the hands of Dr. J. Ehni, ZDMG. xxxiii.166-176, a mythological interpretation, briefly summarized in AJP. i.211. The hymn has 47 stanzas, with an appendix given by Aufrecht, *Rigveda*² ii.682, and comprises somewhat heterogeneous matter (IST. v.269). Most of the hymn occurs in AV. xiv.1 and 2, with many variants. Partial concordance:

| RV. x.85. | AV. xiv. | RV. x.85. | AV. xiv. |
|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 36 = | 1.50 | 27 = | 1.21 |
| 24 = | 1.19,58 | 43 = | 2.40 |
| 25 = | 1.18 | 44 = | 2.17 |
| 26 = | 1.20 | 45 | |
| 32 = | 2.11 | 46 = | 1.44 |
| 33 = | 2.28 | 47 | |

—Besides the translations of Ludwig and of Grassmann, there is one of hymn and appendix by Weber, IST. v.177-195. This is followed by one of AV. xiv. (pages 195-217) and of the other wedding-stanzas of the AV. (pages 218-266) — see also Ludwig, iii. p. 469-76. Most of the Reader-stanzas are translated, with explanations, by Zimmer, 311-313. See also Kaegi, 74(102), and notes 317-325.

STANZA 36. Said to the bride by the groom in the very act of taking her hand in token of wedlock.

STANZAS 24-26 and 32-33. Said just before the bride's departure for her new home. Stanzas 24 and 32 are said by a third person; 25, 26, and 33 may be put in the mouth of the groom. St. 33 may, as the Sūtra says,

be spoken on the way, when people come out of their dwellings to gaze.

STANZA 27. Pādas *a*, *b*, and *c* are said to the bride, and *d* to the couple, on their arrival.

STANZAS 43-47. The groom first prays to Prajāpati on behalf of himself and his bride (43 *a b*), and addresses the latter with good wishes and solemn benedictions (43 *c d*, 44); prays to Indra that the bride may be fruitful (45); bids her hold her own with her new relatives (46); and, finally, beseeches the gods, on behalf of himself and his wife, that they two may dwell in unity (47).

5-6. *gr̥bhñāmi* . . *hāstam*: this, the dextrarum iunctio, is the essential feature of the simplest wedding-ritual, see Haas, 277, 316; cf. *hasta-grābhā* (86¹⁹) and *pāṇi-grāha* (64¹⁰); the AV. modernizes, reading, *gr̥hñāmi*. With the concordant stanza of the AV. are grouped several others (48, 49, 51) of like import. — ‘With me as husband’ (343b). — *yāthā_śasas*, ‘ut sis.’ — U.f. *māhyam tvā_adus* (829). — *gār̥h*, ‘for (our) being heads of a household, i.e. that we may establish a family.’

7-8. *ābadhnāt*, 730. — See *rtā2*. — See *lokā2b* and cf. *sukṛtā* with *sukṛt*. This phrase is equiv. in *form* to the older one (84¹¹), but refers here rather to the ‘world of the pious’ on earth.

I loose thee from Varuṇa's bond,
With which kindly Savitar bound thee. —
At the altar, in the company of the good,
I put thee unharmed with thy husband.

—The first half-stanza is an allegorical, and the second a literal address to the bride. In the allegory, the bond of Varuṇa is night (Hillebrandt). Savitar is the ‘Impeller,’ not only of the rising, but also of the setting sun (RV. i.35.3^a). He brings rest (ii.38.3,4) by sending night, whose gentle bond he lays (Muir, v.235-7) upon his daughter, Sūryā, ‘The Sun,’ till she is released for her bridal with Soma, ‘The Moon’ (masc.), a union which is the prototype (cf. Haas, 328) of human marriages.

From the more literal point of view, the bond of Varuṇa, as the upholder of the established order of things, is (not night —