

to be unyoked. Then they should take down (from the cart) the king (Soma). Were they to take him down when both are let loose, they would bring him into the power of the manes (*pitarah*). Would they do so, when both are still yoked (to the cart), the sacrificer could not keep what he is possessed of, nor increase it; should he have any children, they would be scattered (everywhere, and consequently be lost for him). The bullock which is let loose, represents the children who are in the house, that one which remains yoked, the actions (ceremonies, and worldly pursuits). Those sacrificers who take the Soma down, whilst one of the bullocks is yoked and the other let loose, avail themselves of both actions, of acquiring property, and keeping what they have acquired.

The Devas and Asuras were fighting in these worlds. They fought in the eastern direction; there the Asuras defeated the Devas. They then fought in the southern direction, the Asuras defeated the Devas again. They then fought in the western direction; the Asuras defeated the Devas again. They fought in the northern direction, the Asuras defeated the Devas again. They then fought in the north-eastern direction⁹; there the Devas did not sustain defeat. This direction is *aparâjitâ*, i. e., unconquerable. Thence one should do work in this (north-eastern) direction, and have it done there; for such one (alone) is able to clear off his debts.¹⁰

The Devas said, it is on account of our having no king, that the Asuras defeat us. Let us elect a king.

⁹ It is called *âis'ânî*, i. e., the direction of *îs'ânah*, who is Siva.

¹⁰ According to the Brahmanical notions every man born is a debtor. His creditors are the gods, Rishis, the Pitaras, and men. His debt towards the Pitaras or manes, is cleared off by begetting a son. As long as he has begot no son, he is debtor to the manes. To clear his debts towards the gods by offering sacrifices to them, he must have some property. Any act required for the acquisition of anything, should be done in the north-eastern direction.