

him of his property, just as the most degraded of men (*nishâdas*) robbers, murderers, seize a wealthy man (when travelling) in a forest, and after having thrown him into a ditch, run away with his property.

*Janamejaya*, the son of *Parikshit*, who possessed this knowledge, said, "My priests, who possess this knowledge, made me sacrifice, I who have the same knowledge (in such a manner). Therefore I am victorious; I conquer a hostile army eager of fighting,<sup>16</sup> neither the divine nor the human arrows coming from such an army can reach me. I shall attain the full age allotted to man (100 years), I shall become master of the whole earth. The same falls to the lot of him, who knowing this, is made to sacrifice (by priests) in this way.

### THIRD CHAPTER.

(*The Mahâbhisheka or grand inauguration ceremony of Indra.*)

#### 12.

(*The elevation of Indra to the royalty over the Gods. His throne-seat. By what mantras he ascended it. The Gods proclaim him as King by mentioning all his titles.*)

Now follows the great inauguration (*mahâbhisheka*) of Indra. The gods, headed by *Prajâpati*, said to one another (pointing with their hands to Indra): "This one is among the gods the most vigorous, most strong, most valiant, most perfect, who carries best out any work (to be done). Let us instal him (to the kingship over us)." They all consented to

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<sup>16</sup> In the original, *abhitvari*. Sây. *abhito yuddhârtha-mudayuktâ prakiyâ senâ*.