

piece too soon, the other too late, or by cutting a too large, or a too small piece. The Hotar enjoying this happiness clears himself (from all guilt), and attains the full length of his life (and it serves the sacrificer) for obtaining his full life. He who has such a knowledge, attains the full length of his life.

8.

(*The animals fit for being sacrificed. The offering of the Purodâś'a, forming part of the animal sacrifice*).

The gods killed a man for their sacrifice. But that part in him which was fit for being made an offering, went out and entered a horse. Thence the horse became an animal fit for being sacrificed. The gods then dismissed that man after that part which was only fit for being offered had gone from him, whereupon he became deformed.²¹

The gods killed the horse; but the part fit for being sacrificed (the *medha*) went out of it, and entered an ox; thence the ox became an animal fit for being sacrificed. The gods then dismissed (this horse) after the sacrificial part had gone from it, whereupon it turned to a white deer.

The gods killed the ox; but the part fit for being sacrificed went out of the ox, and entered a sheep; thence the sheep became fit for being sacrificed. The gods then dismissed the ox which turned to a gayal (*bos goaevus*).

The gods killed the sheep; but the part fit for being sacrificed went out of the sheep, and entered

²¹ In the original: *kimpurusha*. According to the original etymological meaning, the word signifies "a deformed or low man." In later mythology the *kimpurushas* or *kinnaras* were attached to Kuvera, the god of treasures. They were regarded as musicians. But this meaning is certainly not applicable here. The author very likely means a dwarf.