

## THIRD BOOK.

### FIRST CHAPTER

(*The Pra-uga Shastra. Vashatkâra. The Nivids.*)

(*The Pra-uga Shastra.*)<sup>1</sup>

#### 1.

(*The deities of the Pra-uga Shastra.*)

The Pra-uga Shastra is the recitation appropriate to the Soma offerings from the Grahas. Nine<sup>2</sup> such Grahas are taken at the morning. With nine

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<sup>1</sup> The Pra-uga Shastra is the most peculiar of all the recitations by the Hotar on the day of the Soma feast ; for it comprises a larger number of deities, divided into regular sections, than any other one, and has neither a proper Nivid, nor Pragâthas, nor Dhâyyâs, nor Sûktas, as we constantly find at the Shastras of the midday and evening libations. It consists only of the verses in seven sections, mentioned in the Rigveda-Saṁhitâ (1, 2-3). Each section is preceded by a so-called Puroruk, along with the Ahâva. Before the Puroruk of the first section there are, besides, the Hîmkâra and the three great words required. I here write these introductory words in the same order in which they are repeated by the Hotri-priests up to the present day :

हिं भूर्भुवः स्वरोऽश् शोऽश् सावोऽश् वायुरग्रेण यज्ञप्रोः साकं गन्म-  
नसा यज्ञं । शिवो नियुद्भिः शिवाभोऽश् वायवायाहि० (see 1, 2, 1-3)

i. e. May Vâyu who walks first, he the enjoyer of the sacrificer, come with his mind to the sacrifice ; (may he come) the happy with his happy crowd ! Om ! Come, O Vâyu, &c.

The Puroruk of the second triplet, (1, 2, 4-6), which is addressed to Indravâyu, is :

शोऽश् सावोऽश् हिरण्यवर्त्तनी नरा देवा पती अभिष्टये । वायुश्चैन्द्रश्च  
सुमखोऽश् मिन्द्रवायू इमे सुता० i. e. the two divine men who come of  
golden paths, the two masters (who are) for protection, Indra and  
Vayu, the happy ones, &c.