

the gods are provided with them, men will subsequently obtain them also. If all Vais'yas (to furnish the necessary supplies) are in readiness, then the sacrifice is prepared. It is prepared for that family in the midst of which there is a Hotar who has this knowledge (and makes provision accordingly).

(The gods are provided for with Vais'yas by the recital of the verse, *svastinaḥ pathyâsu* : ¹⁷ 10, 63, 15), "O Maruts ! grant us in the desert tracks prosperity (by providing us with water) ; grant us prosperity (by abundance) in waters in a desolated region over which the sky shines ! grant prosperity to the wombs of our women for producing children ! grant prosperity to our wealth." For the Maruts are the Vais'yas of the gods (their agriculturists). The Hotar puts them by (repeating) this (mantra) in readiness at the beginning of the sacrifice.

They say, the Hotar should (as *Anuvâkyâ* and *Yâjyâ* verses at the *Prâyaṇīya ishti*) use mantras of all (principal) metres. For the gods conquered the celestial world by means of having used for their (*Anuvâkyâ* and) *Yâjyâ* verses mantras of all metres. Likewise the sacrificer who does the same gains the celestial world. (The two verses) *svastinaḥ pathyâsu* and *svastir iddhi prapathe* (10, 63, 15, 16), ¹⁷ which are addressed to *pathyâ svasti* i. e., safe journey, are in the *Trishtubh* metre. The two verses addressed to Agni, *agne naya supathâ* (1, 189, 1), and *â devânâm api panthâm* (10, 2, 3)

wealth. They are here evidently regarded as the subjected population. The gods are, as Say. states with reference to the creation theory of the Vâjasaneyins, divided into four castes, just as men. *Agni* and *Brihaspati* are the Brâhmanas among the gods ; *Indra*, *Varuna*, *Soma*, the *Rudras*, *Parjanya*, *Yama* *Mṛityu* are the Kshatriyas ; *Ganes'a*, the *Vasus*, the *Rudras*, the *Adityas*, *Viśvedevas* and *Marutas* are the Vais'yas, and *Pûshan* belongs to the Sûdra caste.

¹⁷ See the 3rd note above page 16. The translation of the whole is given in the context.