

shall touch what fell down with water for appeasing (arresting the evil consequences); for water serves for this purpose. Then moving with his right hand over what fell out, he mutters the mantra, "May a third go to heaven to the gods as a sacrifice; might I obtain thence wealth! May a third go to the air, to the Pitaras, as a sacrifice; might I obtain thence wealth! May a third go to the earth, to men; might I obtain thence wealth!" Then he mutters the Vishṇu-Varuṇa verse, *yayor ojasā skabhitā rajāṁsi* (A. V. 7, 25, 1).⁶ For Vishṇu watches over what is performed badly in the sacrifice, and Varuṇa over what is performed well. To appease both of them this penance (is appropriate).

They ask, When the fire offering, after having been made ready, at the time when the Adhvaryu takes it eastward to the Ahavanîya fire (to sacrifice it), runs over or is spilt altogether, what is the penance for it? (The Adhvaryu is not allowed to turn back his face.) If he would turn his face backward, then he would turn the sacrificer from heaven. Therefore (some other men) must gather up for him when he is seated (having turned the face eastward) the remainder of the offering, which he then sacrifices just in its turn.⁷ This is the penance for it.

They ask, if the sacrificial spoon (*sruch*) should be broken, what is the penance for it? He ought to take another *Sruch* and sacrifice with it. Then he shall throw the broken *Sruch* into the Ahavanîya fire, the stick being in the front, and its cavity behind. This is the penance for it.

They ask, If the fire in the Ahavanîya only is burning, but that in the Gârhapatya is extinguished, what is the penance for it? When he takes off the

⁶ See 3, 38.

⁷ Four times a portion is to be poured into the Agnihotrâ-havanî.