

a Kshattriya who is already consecrated ; but not (if they have been duly invoked).

7.

(*The inauguration mantra when the King is sprinkled with the holy water. Whether the sacred words, "bhûr," &c. are to be pronounced along with this mantra or not. Different opinions on this point.*)

They now put the branch of the Udumbara tree on the head of the Kshattriya, and pour the liquids (which are in the large ladle) on it. (When doing so), the priest repeats the following mantras: "With these waters, which are most happy, which cure everything, increase the royal power, and hold up the royal power, the immortal Prajâpati sprinkled Indra, Soma the king, Varuna, Yama, Manu ; with the same, sprinkle I thee ! Be the ruler over kings in this world. Thy illustrious mother bore thee as the great universal ruler over great men ; the blessed mother has borne thee ! By command of the divine Savitar I sprinkle⁷ (thee) with the arms of the As'vins, with the hands of Pûshan, with the lustre of Agni, the splendour of Sûrya, the power of Indra, that thou mayest obtain strength, happiness, fame, and food."

If the priest who sprinkles the king wishes him alone to enjoy good health,⁸ then he shall pronounce (when sprinkling) the sacred word, *bhûr*. If he wishes that two men (son and grandson) should enjoy this benefit together with him, then he shall pronounce the two sacred words *bhûr*, *bhuvah*. If he wishes to benefit in this way three men (son, grandson, and great grandson), or to make (the king) un-

⁷ The arms of the As'vins, &c. are here regarded as the instruments by which the ceremony is performed in a mystical way on the king.

⁸ Lit. that he may eat food.