

perform just this ceremony (*mahâbhisheka*) on Indra. They brought for him that throne-seat, which is called the Rik-formed.¹ They made the Bṛihat and Rathantara verses its two forelegs, the Vairûpa and Vairâja verses its hind-legs, the Sâkvara and Raivata (verses) its top-boards, the Nâudhasa and Kâleya its side-boards. The Rik verses were made the threads of the texture which went lengthwise, the Sâmans were the threads which went crossways, the Yajus verses the intervals in the texture. They made (the goddess of Glory its covering, and (the goddess of) Fortune its pillow, Savitar and Bṛhaspati were holding its two fore-legs, Vâyu and Púshan the two hind-legs, Mitra and Varuṇa the two top-boards, the As'vins the two side-boards.

Indra then ascended the throne-seat, addressing it thus : " May the Vasus ascend thee with the Gâyatrî metre, with the Trivrit Stoma, with the Rathantara Sâma. After them I then ascend for obtaining universal sovereignty. May the Rudras ascend thee with the Trishtubh metre, the fifteen-fold Stoma, and the Bṛihat Sâma. After them then I ascend for obtaining increase of enjoyment. May the Adityas ascend thee with the Jagatî metre, the seventeen-fold Stoma, and the Vairûpa Sâma. After them I ascend for obtaining independent rule. May the Vis've Devâh ascend thee with the Anushtubh metre, the twenty-one-fold Stoma, and the Vairâja Sâma. After them I ascend for obtaining distinguished rule. May the divine Sâdhyâs and Aptus ascend thee with the Pañkti metre, the Trinava (twenty-seven-fold) Stoma, and the Sâkvara Sâma. After them I ascend for obtaining royal power. May the divine Marutas and Aṅgiras ascend thee with the Atichandas metre, the thirty-three-fold Stoma, and the Raivata Sâma. After

¹ It was composed of all the sacred mantras of the Rigveda. On the different Sâmans mentioned here see the notes on page 282.