

ted in the sacrifice, and perform the Prâyas'chittas, as described above.)<sup>12</sup>

The Prastotar <sup>13</sup> says, after the order for chanting the Stotram has been given, "O Brahmâ, we shall now chant, our commander!" The Brahmâ then shall say at the morning libation, "Bhûr! filled with the thought of Indra, ye may sing!" At the midday libation he says, "Bhuvah! filled with the thought of Indra, ye may sing;" and at the evening libation,

<sup>12</sup> I have not translated the passage regarding the Prâyas'chitta to be performed by the Brahmâ priest if any mistake has been committed; for it is only a repetition from 5, 32.

<sup>13</sup> The announcement of the Prastotar, that the chanters are ready to perform their chant, as well as the orders to do so given by the Brahmâ and Maitrâvaruṇa, are contained in full in the As'val. S'r. S. (5, 2), and in the Sânk. S'r. S. (6, 8). I here give the text from the As'v. S. :—

ब्रह्मन् स्तोष्यामः प्रशास्तरिति स्तोत्रायातिसर्जितावतिसृजतो भूरि-  
न्द्रवन्तः सवितृप्रसूता इति जपित्वा सुध्वमिति ब्रम्हा प्रातःसवने  
भुव इति माध्यन्दिने स्वरिति तृतीयसवने भूर्भुवः स्वरिन्द्रवन्तः स-  
वितृप्रसूता इत्यर्धमाग्निमाहतात् । सुतदेवेन सवित्रा प्रसूता ऋतंच  
सत्यंच वदत । आयुष्मत्य ऋचो मा गात तनू पात्साम्न ओरेमिति  
जपित्वा मैत्रावरुणः सुध्वमित्युच्चैः ॥

(When the Prastotar calls) "Brahmâ, we shall chant, O commander!" then the two priests (the Brahmâ and Maitrâvaruṇa) whose duty it is to allow (the chanters to sing) give their permission. The Brahmâ after having first muttered the words "*bhûr*, be ye filled with Indra, created by Savitar (or permitted by Savitar)," at the morning libation, says, "chant;" at the midday libation he uses instead of *bhûr*, *bhuvah*; and at the evening libation, *sva* (the remainder of the Japa being the same). Before all the Stotras which follow the Agnimâruta Shastra (which concludes the Shastras of the Agni-shotoma), that is to say, at the Ukthya, Sholas'i, Atirâtra sacrifices, &c. the Brahmâ mutters all the three great words (*bhûr*, *bhuvah*, *svah*, along with the remainder of the formula) at the same time. The Maitrâvaruṇa, after having muttered "Speak what is right and true, ye who are created by Savitar, the god to whose honour praises are chanted, do not lose the sacred verses (chanted by you) which are life, may he protect both bodies of the Sâman (the verses and the tune) Om!" says aloud "chant!"