

butter for the Vapâ in the ladle, then follows a thin gold plate, the Vapâ, the melted butter for the gold plate, and (lastly) the dripping of melted butter (on the whole).

They ask : if there is no gold to be had, what should he do then ? (The answer is :) he should first put twice melted butter in the ladle, then the Vapâ, and drip twice hot melted butter on it. The melted butter is ambrosia, the gold is also ambrosia. Therefore everything wished for (by the sacrificer) when throwing the melted butter and the gold (in the ladle), is attainable. Together with the melted butter (to be taken twice), and the gold, the Vapâ oblation consists of five parts.⁷

Man is composed of five parts, viz. hairs, skin, flesh, bones, and marrow. The priest having (by the Vapâ oblation) made (the sacrificer) just such a man (composed of five parts), offers him in Agni, who is the womb of the gods. For Agni is the womb of the gods ; after having grown together in Agni's womb with the (different other) oblations, he then goes up to heaven with a golden body.

15.

(On the repetition of the Prâtar-anuvâka, or early morning prayer, on the day of the Soma libation.)

The Adhvaryu orders the Hotar to repeat the mantras appropriate for the gods who appear in the early morning. These gods are Agni, Ushâs (dawn), and the As'vins (twilight); they come, if each of them is addressed in mantras of seven different

⁷ The two others are the Vapâ itself and the hot melted butter dripped on it.