

ensconces himself within the [loose and wide] trowsers of the chamberlain; the mountaineers, the guardians of the bounds, acted in a style accordant with their name [derived from *kri* 'to do'—i. e. they did valiantly, *not* running away from the monkey*—]; while the hump-backs, fearing that they may be seen [by the monkey], cowering down, slink quietly off."

b. The "left-hand brother-in-law" [such as the cruel coxcomb Samsthánaka] in such [plays] as the *Mrichchhakati*,† [or the "Toy-cart"] is well known. The others too [of the assistants not here exemplified in quotations] may be recognised as they present themselves.

c. Now the assistants in punishing [or in the administration of criminal justice—are to be described].

TEXT.

The assistants
in matters of po-
lice.

No. 82. In regard to punishments [the assistants of the king are] his friends, the princes [his sons], foresters [employed as police], lords lieutenant, generals, &c.

COMMENTARY.

a. "Punishment" means the chastisement of evil-doers;—[all this is] plain.

TEXT.

The assistants
in things sacred.

No. 83. In his religious duties let these [i. e. his assistants] be chaplains and domestic priests, and so too ascetics, knowers of *Brahma*.

COMMENTARY.

a. "Knowers of *Brahma*"—i. e. knowers of the Veda, or knowers of the [divine] soul.

b. Amongst these [various classes of assistants there is not an equality in point of rank—for]—.

TEXT.

Respective rank
of the classes of
assistants.

No. 84. The highest [in rank, among the various classes of assistants], are 'comrades' [§ 76], &c.

* Such is one explanation of the pun. Professor Wilson suggests another—"Kiráṭa, a mountaineer, being derived from the roots *kri* to scatter and *ata* to go, that is, they scattered or ran away." This is more in keeping with the conduct of the others—but the humour would perhaps be heightened by its lying on the ironical tribute to the valour of the guards who alone were not afraid—of a monkey.

† Specimens of the Theatre of the Hindus.