

And the definition censured is chargeable with the irrelevancy animadverted upon—] for when it is said “The minister is the assistant of the hero in his [—i. e. the hero’s—] taking thought about state affairs,” by the sense [of the sentence], the hero is set down [as being one that takes thought about state affairs—which he by no means necessarily is]. And as for what is said [by some one, in reference to the same topic of ‘assistants’]—viz. “The thoughtless [king—§ 68—] has his kingly functions subordinated to his ministers; the others [§ 66, 67, and 69] have theirs in the charge of their ministers and themselves [jointly];”—this also is a point the mention of which is mistimed, because, by the mere mention of his characteristic [thoughtlessness], it was settled that the “*thoughtless* hero” is one the taking thought about whose state affairs is entirely in the charge of his minister. And, in the taking thought about state affairs, his minister is not his *assistant* [—and the present topic, be it remembered—§ 80—is that of “assistants”—] but is himself the sole manager,—for *he* [the thoughtless hero] takes no thought about affairs of state [and cannot therefore have an assistant in doing it].

The assistants belonging to the inner apartments. Now the assistants belonging to the inner apartments [are described].

TEXT.

No. 81. In like manner in the harem [the following are assistants—viz.—] dwarfs, eunuchs, mountaineers [retained as guards], barbarians, cow-herds, left-hand brothers-in-law, hump-backs, &c. Possessed of pride, folly, and vanity, one of low family, raised [by the connection] to power, the brother of an unmarried [concubine] and [in so far] brother-in-law of a king, is called a left-hand brother-in-law.

COMMENTARY.

- a.* By the “&c.” are meant mutes and others.
- b.* Among these [enumerated in § 81], the eunuchs, dwarfs, mountaineers, hump-backs, &c. [are to be found spoken of in such passages] as [the following one which occurs] in the [play called the] *Ratnāvalī** [or the “Necklace”].

“The eunuchs [—alarmed at the approach of the monkey of the stable which had broken its chain—] fled, having abandoned shame because of their not being reckoned among men; the dwarf, in terror,

* Translated by Professor Wilson in his *Specimens of the Theatre of the Hindus*.