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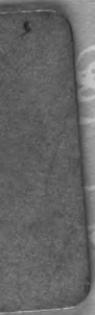
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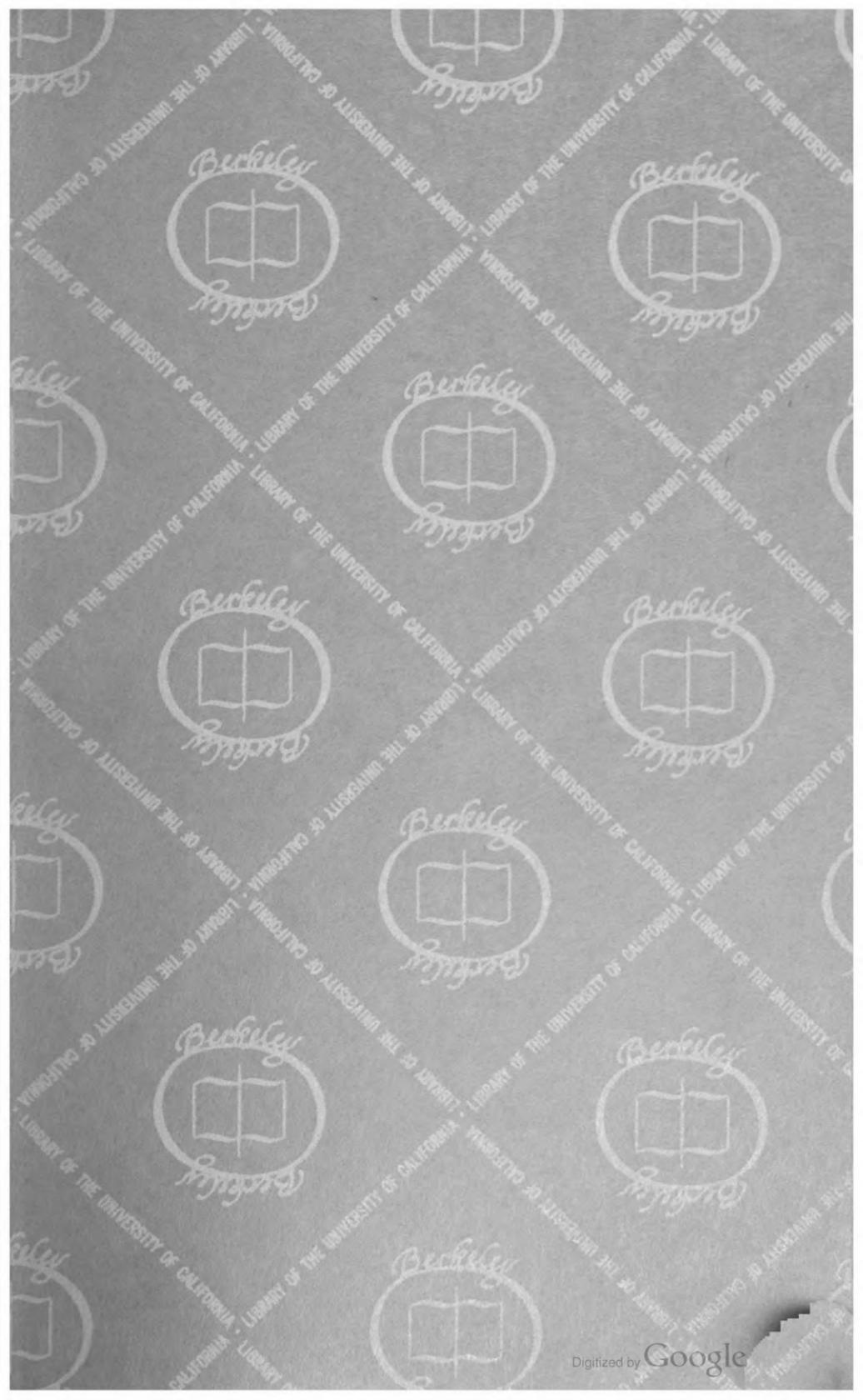
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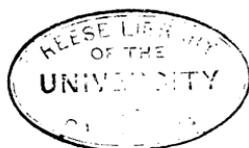
TRANSLATED

BY VARIOUS ORIENTAL SCHOLARS

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THE ZEND-AVESTA

PART II

THE SÎRÔZAHS, YASTS, AND NYÂYIS

TRANSLATED BY

JAMES DARMESTETER

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INTRODUCTION.

THE present volume contains a translation of the *Sîrôzahs* and *Yasts*, and of the *Nyâyis*. This part of the *Avesta* treats chiefly of the mythical and legendary lore of Zoroastrianism.

For a satisfactory translation of these texts, the etymological and comparative method is generally considered as the best or as the only possible one, on account of the entire absence of any traditional interpretation. I have tried, however, to reduce the sphere of etymological guesswork to its narrowest limits, with the help of different Pahlavi, Persian, and Sanskrit translations, which are as yet unpublished, and have been neglected by former translators. I found such translations for the *Sîrôzahs*, for *Yasts* I, VI, VII, XI, XXIII, XXIV, and for the *Nyâyis*¹ (besides the already published translations of *Yasts* XXI and XXII).

Of the remaining *Yasts*, which are mostly of an epical character, there is no direct translation available; but a close comparison of the legends in Firdausi's *Shâh Nâmah* seems to throw some light, even as regards philological points, on not a few obscure and important passages. This has enabled me, I believe, to restore a few myths to their original form, and to frame a more correct idea of others².

In this volume, as in the preceding one, I have to thank Mr. West for his kind assistance in making my translation more readable, as well as for valuable hints in the interpretation of several passages.

JAMES DARMESTETER.

PARIS,

13 December, 1882.

¹ These translations have been edited in our *Études Iraniennes*, II, 253 seq. (Paris, Vieweg, 1883).

² See *ibidem*, II, 206 seq.

YASTS AND SÎRÔZAHS.

YASTS AND SÎRÔZAH.

THE word *yast*, in Zend *yēsti*, means properly 'the act of worshipping,' the performance of the *yasna*; and it is often used in Parsi tradition as synonymous with *yasna*. But it has also been particularly applied to a certain number of writings in which the several Izeds are praised and magnified. These writings are generally of a higher poetical and epical character than the rest of the Avesta, and are most valuable records of the old mythology and historical legends of Iran.

The Parsis believe that formerly every Amshaspand and every Ized had his particular *Yast*, but we now possess only twenty *Yasts* and fragments of another¹. The writings known as *Yast* fragments, the *Âfrîn Zartust*, and *Vîstâsp Yast* (printed as *Yasts XXI, XXII, XXIII, XXIV* in Westergaard's edition), are not proper *Yasts*, and have no liturgical character; they are not devoted to the praise of any Ized.

The order in which the *Yasts* have been arranged by the Parsis follows exactly the order of the *Sîrôzah*, which is the proper introduction to the *Yasts*.

SÎRÔZAH.

Sîrôzah means 'thirty days:' it is the name of a prayer composed of thirty invocations addressed to the several Izeds who preside over the thirty days of the month.

There are two *Sîrôzahs*, but the only difference between them is that the formulas in the former are shorter², and there is also, occasionally, some difference in the epithets, which are fuller in the latter.

¹ The Bahman *Yast* (see *Yt.* I, §§ 24 and following).

² In the greater *Sîrôzah* the names of the gods invoked are introduced with the word *yazamaidê*, 'we sacrifice to;' in the lesser *Sîrôzah* there is no introductory word, the word *khshnao-thra*, 'propitiation,' being understood, as can be seen from the introductory formulas to the several *Yasts*.

In India the Sîrôzah is recited in honour of the dead, on the thirtieth day after the death, on the thirtieth day of the sixth month, on the thirtieth day of the twelfth month, and then every year on the thirtieth day from the anniversary day (Anquetil, *Zend-Avesta*, II, 315).

The correspondence between the formulas of the Sîrôzah and the Yasts is as follows :

1. Ormazd.	Ormazd Yast (I, 1-23).
2. Bahman.	Bahman Yast (I, 24-33).
3. Ardibehest.	Ardibehest Yast (III).
4. Shahrêvar.	
5. Sapedârmad.	
6. Khordâd.	Khordâd Yast (IV).
7. Murdâd.	
8. Dai pa Âdar.	
9. Âdar.	
10. Âbân.	Âbân Yast (V).
11. Khorshêd.	Khorshêd Yast (VI).
12. Mâh.	Mâh Yast (VII).
13. Tîr.	Tîr Yast (VIII).
14. Gôs.	Gôs Yast (IX).
15. Dai pa Mihir.	
16. Mihir.	Mihir Yast (X).
17. Srôsh.	Srôsh Yast (XI).
18. Rashn.	Rashn Yast (XII).
19. Farvardîn.	Farvardîn Yast (XIII).
20. Bahrâm.	Bahrâm Yast (XIV).
21. Râm.	Râm Yast (XV).
22. Bâd.	
23. Dai pa Dîn.	
24. Dîn.	Dîn Yast (XVI).
25. Ard.	Ashi Yast (XVII).
26. Âstâd.	Âstâd Yast (XVIII).
27. Âsmân.	
28. Zemyâd.	Zemyâd Yast (XIX).
29. Mahraspand.	
30. Anêrân.	

The Yasts that have been lost are, therefore, those of Khshathra-vairyâ, Spenta-Ârmaiti, Ameretât, Âtar, Vâta, Asman, Mâthra-Spenta, and Anaghra raokau. The second Yast, or Yast of the seven Amshaspands, appears to have been no independent Yast : it was common to all the seven Yasts devoted to the several

Amshaspands, and, accordingly, it is recited on the first seven days of the month. One might suppose that it was originally a part of the Ormazd Yast, as the Amesha-Spentas are invoked in company with Ahura Mazda (Sîrôzah I, 8, 15, 23). There may, indeed, have been several Yasts for one and the same formula of the Sîrôzah, as in all of these formulas more than one Ized are invoked: this would apply not only to the Yast of the seven Amshaspands, but also to the *Vanant* Yast (Yast XX), which, in that case, ought to follow the Tîr Yast (see Sîrôzah 13).

Not every Yast, however, is devoted to the Ized whose name it bears: thus the Ardibehest Yast is mostly devoted to Airyaman; the Râm-Yast and the Zemyâd-Yast are devoted to Vayu and to the *Hvarenô*: but Airyaman, Vayu, and the *Hvarenô* are invoked in the same Sîrôzah formulas as Ardibehest, Râm, and Zemyâd, and a Yast is named from the opening name in the correspondent Sîrôzah formula.

The systematic order so apparent in the Sîrôzah pervades the rest of the liturgy to a great extent: the enumeration of Izeds in Yasna XVII, 12-42 (XVI, 3-6) follows exactly the order of the Sîrôzah, except that it gives only the first name of each formula; and the question may be raised whether this passage in the Yasna is taken from the Sîrôzah, or whether the Sîrôzah is developed from the Yasna.

The very idea of the Sîrôzah, that is to say the attribution of each of the thirty days of the month to certain gods, seems to have been borrowed from the Semites: the tablets found in the library of Assurbanipal contain an Assyrian Sîrôzah, that is, a complete list of the Assyrian gods that preside over the thirty days of the month¹.

SÎRÔZAH I.

I. Ormazd.

To Ahura Mazda, bright and glorious², and to the Amesha-Speñtas³.

¹ J. Halévy, *Revue des Études Juives*, 1881, October, p. 188.

² See Yt. I, 1-23.

³ See Yt. II.

2. Bahman.

To Vohu-Manô¹; to Peace², whose breath is friendly³, and who is more powerful to destroy than all other creatures⁴; to the heavenly Wisdom⁵, made by Mazda; and to the Wisdom acquired through the ear⁵, made by Mazda.

3. Ardibehest.

To Asha-Vahista, the fairest⁶; to the much-desired Airyaman, made by Mazda⁷; to the instrument made by Mazda⁸; and to the good Saoka⁹, with eyes of love¹⁰, made by Mazda and holy.

¹ See Yt. I, 24-33.

² Âkhsti does not so much mean Peace as the power that secures peace; see note 4.

³ Hām-vaiṛti, from hām-vâ (Yt. X, 141); possibly from van, to strike: 'Peace that smites.'

⁴ Taradhâtem anyâis dâmân, interpreted: tarvînitârtûm min zakî ân dâmân pun anâstîh akâr kartan (Phl. Comm.), 'more destroying than other creatures, to make Non-peace (Anâ-khsti) powerless.'

⁵ Âsnya khratu, the inborn intellect, intuition, contrasted with gaoshô-srûta khratu, the knowledge acquired by hearing and learning. There is between the two nearly the same relation as between the parâvidyâ and aparâvidyâ in Brahmanism, the former reaching Brahma in se (parabrahma), the latter sabdabrahma, the word-Brahma (Brahma as taught and revealed). The Mobeds of later times interpreted their name Magûs, مغوش, as meaning, 'men without ears,' ماگوش, 'pour insinuer que leur Docteur avait puisé toute sa science dans le ciel et qu'il ne l'avait pas apprise par l'ouïe comme les autres hommes' (Chardin, III, 130; ed. Amsterdam).

⁶ See Yt. III.

⁷ See Vend. XXII.

⁸ The 'golden instrument' mentioned in Nyâyis I, 8.

⁹ A personification of the Ormazdean weal; cf. Vend. XXII, 3 [8], and Yt. XIII, 42.

¹⁰ Vouru-dôithra, kâmak dôisr; she is 'the genius of the good

4. Shahrêvar.

To Khshathra-vairya; to the metals¹; to Mercy and Charity.

5. Sapendârmad.

To the good Spenta-Ârmaiti², and to the good Râta³, with eyes of love, made by Mazda and holy.

6. Khordâd.

To Haurvatât⁴, the master; to the prosperity of the seasons and to the years, the masters of holiness.

7. Murdâd.

To Ameretât⁵, the master; to fatness and flocks; to the plenty of corn; and to the powerful Gaoke-rena⁶, made by Mazda.

(At the gâh⁷ Hâvan): to Mithra⁸, the lord of wide pastures and to Râma Hvâstra⁹.

(At the gâh Rapithwin): to Asha-Vahista and to Âtar¹⁰, the son of Ahura Mazda¹¹.

eye, *mînôî hušasmîh'* (Vend. XIX, 36 [123]), the reverse of the evil eye (Yasna LXVII, 62 [LXVIII, 22]; cf. Études Iraniennes, II, 182).

¹ Vend. Introd. IV, 33; Ormazd et Ahriman, §§ 202-206.

² Ibid. ³ Vend. Introd. IV, 30.

⁴ See Yt. IV.

⁵ See Vend. Introd. IV, 34.

⁶ The white Hôrn, or plant of immortality; see Vend. Introd. IV, 28.

⁷ See Gâhs.

⁸ See Yt. X.

⁹ See Yt. XV. Cf. Yasna I, 3 (7-9), where Mithra and Râma are invoked in company with the genius of the Hâvani period of the day.

¹⁰ The Genius of Fire.

¹¹ Cf. Yasna I, 4 (10-12), where Asha-Vahista and Âtar are invoked in company with the genius of the Rapithwin period of the day.

(At the gâh Uzîren): to Apâm Napât¹, the tall lord, and to the water made by Mazda².

(At the gâh Aiwisrûthrem): to the Fravashis³ of the faithful, and to the females that bring forth flocks of males⁴; to the prosperity of the seasons; to the well-shapen and tall-formed Strength, to Verethraghna⁵, made by Ahura, and to the crushing Ascendant⁶.

(At the gâh Ushahin): to the holy, devout, fiend-smiting Sraosha⁷, who makes the world grow; to Rashnu Razista⁸, and to Arstât⁹, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase¹⁰.

8. Ðai pa Âdar¹¹.

To the Maker Ahura Mazda, bright and glorious, and to the Amesha-Spentas.

¹ Literally 'the Son of the Waters;' he was originally the Fire of lightning, as born in the clouds (like the Vedic Apâm napât); he still appears in that character, Yt. VIII, 34; he is for that reason 'the lord of the females' because the waters were considered as females. (cf. Yasna XXXVIII, 1 [2]). But, as napât means also 'navel' (the same words having often the two meanings of 'navel' and 'offspring;' cf. nâbhi in the Vedas and the Zend nâfyô, 'offspring,' from nâfa 'navel'), Apâm Napât was interpreted as 'the spring of the waters, the navel of the waters,' which was supposed to be at the source of the Arvand (the Tigris; Neriosengh ad Yasna I, 5 [15]); cf. Yt. V, 72.

² Cf. Yasna I, 5 [13-15].

³ See Yt. XIII.

⁴ Perhaps better: 'to the flocks of Fravashis of the faithful, men and women.'

⁵ The Genius of Victory; see Yt. XIV.

⁶ Cf. Yasna I, 6 [16-19].

⁷ See Yt. XI and Vend. Introd. IV, 31; Farg. XVIII, 14 seq.

⁸ The Genius of Truth; see Yt. XII.

⁹ Truth; see Yt. XVIII.

¹⁰ Cf. Yasna I, 7 [20-23].

¹¹ The day before Âdar (Ðai is the Persian دی, 'yesterday,' which is the same word as the Sanskrit hyas, Latin heri). The eighth, fifteenth, and twenty-third days of the month are under the

9. Âdar.

To Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; to the Glory and to the Weal, made by Mazda ; to the Glory of the Aryas¹, made by Mazda ; to the awful Glory of the Kavis², made by Mazda.

To Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; to king Husravah³ ; to the lake of Husravah⁴ ; to Mount Âsnavant⁵, made by Mazda ; to Lake *Kaêkasta*⁶, made by Mazda ; to the Glory of the Kavis, made by Mazda⁷.

rule of Ahura and the Amesha-Spentas, like the first day ; they have therefore no name of their own and are named from the day that follows. The month was divided into four weeks, the first two numbering seven days, the last two numbering eight.

¹ Or better 'the Glories of the Aryas' (*Eramdesarizâm*): the Glory or *Hvarenô* (*Vend. Introd. IV, 11, p. lxiii, note 1*) is threefold, according as it illuminates the priest, the warrior, or the husbandman. *Yast XIX* is devoted to the praise of the *Hvarenô*.

² Or 'the awful kingly glory:' Kavi means a king, but it is particularly used of the kings belonging to the second and most celebrated of the two mythical dynasties of Iran. The Kavis succeeded the *Paradhâta* or *Pêshdâdians*, and Darius Codomanes was supposed to be the last of them. For an enumeration of the principal Kavis, see *Yt. XIII, 132 seq.* The *Hvarenô* alluded to in this clause is the *Hvarenô* of the priest ; 'it is the fire known as *Âdaraprâ* [*Âdar Frobâ*] ; or better *Âdar Farnbag* : see *Études Iraniennes, II, 84* ; its object is the science of the priests ; by its help priests become learned and clever' (*Sanskrit transl. to the Âtash Nyâyish*).

³ See *Yt. V, 41, note.*

⁴ See *Yt. XIX, 56.*

⁵ A mountain in *Adarbaigân* (*Bundahis XII, 26*), where king Husravah settled the fire Gushasp.

⁶ See *Yt. V, 49.*

⁷ The glory of the warriors, the fire known as *Âdar Gushasp* or *Gushnasp* ; with its help king Husravah destroyed the idol-temples near Lake *Kêkast*, and he settled it on Mount *Âsnavant* (*Bund. XVII, 7*).

To Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda; to Mount Raêvant¹, made by Mazda; to the Glory of the Kavis, made by Mazda².

To Âtar, the beneficent, the warrior; the God who is a full source of Glory, the God who is a full source of healing.

To Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda, with all Âtars³; to the God Nairyô-Sangha⁴, who dwells in the navel of kings⁵.

10. Âbân.

To the good Waters, made by Mazda; to the holy water-spring Ardvi Anâhita⁶; to all waters made by Mazda; to all plants made by Mazda.

11. Khorshêd.

To the undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun⁷.

12. Mâh.

To the Moon that keeps in it the seed of the Bull⁸; to the only-created Bull⁹; to the Bull of many species¹⁰.

¹ A mountain in Khorâsân on which the Burzîn fire is settled (Bund. XII, 18).

² 'The fire known as Âdaraburagâmihira [Âdar Burzîn Mihir]; its object is the science of husbandry.' King Gustâsp established it on Mount Raêvant (Bund. XVII, 8).

³ All sorts of fires. See another classification, Yasna XVII, 11 [63-67] and Bundahis XVII, 1.

⁴ See Vend. XXII, 7.

⁵ The fire Nairyô-sangha, as the messenger of Ahura, burns hereditarily in the bosom of his earthly representative, the king.

⁶ See Yt. V.

⁷ See Yt. VI.

⁸ See Yt. VII and Vend. XXI, 1, text and note.

⁹ Aêvô-dâta gâus; see Vend. I.1. and Bundahis IV.

¹⁰ Pouru-saredha gâus: the couple born of the seed of the

13. Tîr.

To Tistrya¹, the bright and glorious star; to the powerful Satavaêsa², made by Mazda, who pushes waters forward; to the stars, made by Mazda, that have in them the seed of the waters, the seed of the earth, the seed of the plants³; to the star Vanant⁴, made by Mazda; to those stars that are seven in number, the Haptôiringas⁴, made by Mazda, glorious and healing.

14. Gôs.

To the body of the Cow, to the soul of the Cow, to the powerful Drvâspa⁵, made by Mazda and holy.

15. Dai pa Mihir.

To the Maker Ahura Mazda, bright and glorious, and to the Amesha-Speztas.

16. Mihir.

To Mithra⁶, the lord of wide pastures, who has a thousand ears and ten thousand eyes, a God invoked by his own name; to Râma Hvâstra⁷.

17. Srôsh.

To the holy, strong Sraosha⁸, who is the incarnate Word, a mighty-speared and lordly God.

18. Rashn.

To Rashnu Razista⁹; to Arstât¹⁰, who makes the

only-created Bull, and from which arose two hundred and eighty species (Bund. XI, 3).

¹ See Yt. VIII.

² See Yt. VIII, 9.

³ See Yt. XII, 29-31.

⁴ See Yt. VIII, 12.

⁵ See Yt. IX.

⁶ See Yt. X.

⁷ See Yt. XV.

⁸ See Yt. XI.

⁹ See Yt. XII.

¹⁰ See Yt. XVIII.

world grow, who makes the world increase; to the true-spoken speech, that makes the world grow.

19. Farvardîn.

To the awful, overpowering Fravashis of the holy ones¹.

20. Bahrâm.

To the well-shapen, tall-formed Strength; to Verethraghna², made by Ahura; to the crushing Ascendant.

21. Râm.

To Râma *Hvâstra*³; to Vayu³, who works highly⁴ and is more powerful to destroy than all other creatures: to that part of thee, O Vayu, that belongs to Spenta-Mainyu⁵; to the sovereign Sky, to the Boundless Time⁶, to the sovereign Time of the long Period⁶.

22. Bâd.

To the bounteous Wind, that blows below, above, before, and behind; to the manly Courage.

23. Dai pa Dîn.

To the Maker, Ahura Mazda, bright and glorious; to the Amesha-Spentas.

24. Dîn.

To the most right *Kîsta*⁷, made by Mazda and holy; to the good Law⁷ of the worshippers of Mazda.

¹ See Yt. XIII.

³ See Yt. XV.

⁵ See Yt. XV, 1.

⁶ See Vend. Introd. IV, 39 and lxxxii, 1.

⁷ See Yt. XVI.

² See Yt. XIV.

⁴ Powerfully.

25. Ard.

To Ashi Vanguhi¹; to the good *Kīsti*²; to the good Erethe³; to the good *Rasāstāt*⁴; to the Weal and Glory, made by Mazda; to *Pārendi*⁵, of the light chariot; to the Glory of the Aryas made by Mazda; to the kingly Glory made by Mazda; to that Glory that cannot be forcibly seized⁶, made by Mazda; to the Glory of Zarathustra, made by Mazda.

26. Āstâd.

To *Arstât*⁷, who makes the world grow; to Mount Ushi-darena⁸, made by Mazda, the seat of holy happiness.

27. Āsmân.

To the high, powerful Heavens; to the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy ones.

28. Zemyâd⁹.

To the bounteous Earth; to these places, to these fields; to Mount Ushi-darena⁸, made by Mazda, the seat of holy happiness; to all the mountains made by Mazda, that are seats of holy happiness, of full happiness; to the kingly Glory made by Mazda;

¹ See Yt. XVII.

² Religious knowledge, wisdom (*fargânak*; *nirvânagnânam*).

³ Thought (*ġittam*).

⁴ Thoughtfulness (*ġittasthiti*).

⁵ The keeper of treasures; cf. Vend. Introd. IV, 30.

⁶ *Ahvaretem hvarênô*: 'the *hvarênô* of the priests: that it cannot be forcibly seized means that one must take possession of it through virtue and righteous exertion' (Neriosengh and Pahl. Comm. to Yasna I and IV, 14 [42]).

⁷ See Yt. XVIII.

⁸ See Yt. I, 31, text and note.

⁹ See Yt. XIX.

to that Glory that cannot be forcibly seized¹, made by Mazda.

29. Mahraspand.

To the holy, righteousness-performing Mâthra Spenta²; to the Law opposed to the Daêvas, the Law of Zarathustra; to the long-traditional teaching³; to the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda; to the Devotion to the Mâthra Spenta; to the understanding that keeps⁴ the Law of the worshippers of Mazda; to the knowledge of the Mâthra Spenta; to the heavenly Wisdom made by Mazda; to the Wisdom acquired through the ear⁵ and made by Mazda.

30. Anêrân.

To the eternal⁶ and sovereign luminous space⁷; to the bright Garô-nmâna⁸; to the sovereign place of eternal Weal⁹; to the *K'invat*-bridge¹⁰, made by Mazda; to the tall lord Apâm Napât¹¹ and to the water made by Mazda; to Haoma¹², of holy birth; to the pious and good Blessing; to the awful cursing thought of the wise³; to all the holy Gods of the

¹ See p. 11, note 6.

² The Holy Word.

³ Daregha upayana: the Genius of Teaching (*sixâm adriya-rûpizîm*; Yasna I, 12 [40]).

⁴ In memory.

⁵ See above, § 2.

⁶ Or boundless (*anaghra*; the Parsi *anêrân*).

⁷ Or Infinite Light; see Vend. Introd. p. lxxxii and Bund. I, 2.

⁸ The abode of Ahura Mazda; see Vend. XIX, 32.

⁹ See Vend. XIX, 36, note 1.

¹⁰ See Vend. XIX, 29, note 3.

¹¹ See *Sîrôzah* II, 7, note.

¹² See Vend. Introd. IV, 28.

¹³ 'The blessing (*âfriti*) is twofold: one by thought, one by words; the blessing by words is the more powerful; the curse

heavenly world and of the material one; to the awful, overpowering Fravashis of the faithful, to the Fravashis of the first men of the law, to the Fravashis of the next-of-kin¹; to every God invoked by his own name².

SÎRÔZAH II.

1. Ormazd.

We sacrifice unto the bright and glorious Ahura Mazda; we sacrifice unto the Amesha-Spentas, the all-ruling, the all-beneficent.

2. Bahman.

We sacrifice unto Vohu-Manô, the Amesha-Spenta; we sacrifice unto Peace, whose breath is friendly, and who is more powerful to destroy than all other creatures. We sacrifice unto the heavenly Wisdom, made by Mazda; we sacrifice unto the Wisdom acquired through the ear, made by Mazda.

3. Ardibehest.

We sacrifice unto Asha-Vahista, the fairest, the Amesha-Spenta; we sacrifice unto the much-desired Airyaman; we sacrifice unto the instrument made by Mazda; we sacrifice unto the good Saoka, with eyes of love, made by Mazda and holy.

(upamana) in thought is the more powerful' (Neriosengh ad Yasna I, 15 [44]). Upamana is the same as the Vedic manyu.

¹ See Yt. XIII, o.

² In contradistinction to general invocations.

4. Shahrêvar.

We sacrifice unto Khshathra-Vairya, the Amsha-Spenta; we sacrifice unto the metals; we sacrifice unto Mercy and Charity.

5. Sapendârmad.

We sacrifice unto the good Spenta Ârmaiti; we sacrifice unto the good Râta, with eyes of love, made by Mazda and holy.

6. Khordâd.

We sacrifice unto Haurvatât, the Amsha-Spenta; we sacrifice unto the prosperity of the seasons. We sacrifice unto the years, the holy and masters of holiness.

7. Murdâd.

We sacrifice unto Ameretât, the Amsha-Spenta; we sacrifice unto fatness and flocks; we sacrifice unto the plenty of corn; we sacrifice unto the powerful Gaokerena, made by Mazda.

(At the gâh Hâvan): We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures; we sacrifice unto Râma Hvâstra.

(At the gâh Rapithwin): We sacrifice unto Asha-Vahista and unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda.

(At the gâh Uzîren): We sacrifice unto Apâm Napât, the swift-horsed, the tall and shining lord, the lord of the females; we sacrifice unto the water made by Mazda and holy.

(At the gâh Aiwisrûthrem): We sacrifice unto the good, powerful, beneficent Fravashis of the holy ones; we sacrifice unto the females that bring forth flocks of males; we sacrifice unto the thrift of the

seasons ; we sacrifice unto the well-shapen and tall-formed Strength ; we sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the crushing Ascendant.

(At the gâh Ushahin) : We sacrifice unto the holy, tall-formed, fiend-smiting Sraosha, who makes the world grow, the holy and master of holiness ; we sacrifice unto Rashnu Razista ; we sacrifice unto Arstât, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase.

8. Dai pa Âdar.

We sacrifice unto the Maker Ahura Mazda, the bright and glorious ; we sacrifice unto the Amesha-Spentas, the all-ruling, the all-beneficent.

9. Âdar.

We sacrifice unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the Glory, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the Weal, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the Glory of the Aryas, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the awful Glory of the Kavis, made by Mazda.

We sacrifice unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; we sacrifice unto king Husravah ; we sacrifice unto the lake of Husravah ; we sacrifice unto Mount Âsnavant, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto Lake Kaêkasta, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the awful Glory of the Kavis, made by Mazda.

We sacrifice unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; we sacrifice unto Mount Raêvant, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the awful Glory of the Kavis, made by Mazda.

We sacrifice unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; we sacrifice unto Âtar, the beneficent, the warrior.

We sacrifice unto that God, who is a full source of glory. We sacrifice unto that God, who is a full source of healing.

We sacrifice unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; we sacrifice unto all Fires ; we sacrifice unto the God, Nairyô-Sangha, who dwells in the navel of kings.

10. Âbân.

We sacrifice unto the good Waters, made by Mazda and holy ; we sacrifice unto the holy water-spring Ardvi Anâhita ; we sacrifice unto all waters, made by Mazda and holy ; we sacrifice unto all plants, made by Mazda and holy.

11. Khorshêd.

We sacrifice unto the bright, undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun.

12. Mâh.

We sacrifice unto the Moon that keeps in it the seed of the Bull. We sacrifice unto the Soul and Fravashi of the only-created Bull ; we sacrifice unto the Soul and Fravashi of the Bull of many species.

13. Tîr.

We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star ; we sacrifice unto the powerful Satavaêsa, made by Mazda, who pushes waters forward ; we sacrifice unto all the Stars that have in them the seed of the waters ; we sacrifice unto all the Stars that have in them the seed of the earth ; we sacrifice unto all the Stars that have in them the seeds of the plants ; we sacrifice unto the Star *Vanant*, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto those stars that are seven in number, the Haptôiringas, made by Mazda, glorious and healing ; in order to oppose the Yâtus and Pairikas.

14. Gôs.

We sacrifice unto the soul of the bounteous Cow ; we sacrifice unto the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy.

15. Dai pa Mihir.

We sacrifice unto the Maker Ahura Mazda, the bright and glorious ; we sacrifice unto the Ameshaspentas, the all-ruling, the all-beneficent.

16. Mihir.

We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, who has a thousand ears and ten thousand eyes, a God invoked by his own name ; we sacrifice unto Râma *Hvâstra*.

17. Srôsh.

We sacrifice unto the holy, tall-formed, fiend-smiting, world-increasing Sraosha, holy and master of holiness.

18. Rashn.

We sacrifice unto Rashnu Razista ; we sacrifice unto Arstât, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase ; we sacrifice unto the true-spoken speech that makes the world grow.

19. Farvardîn.

We sacrifice unto the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the holy ones.

20. Bahrâm.

We sacrifice unto the well-shapen, tall-formed Strength ; we sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura ; we sacrifice unto the crushing Ascendant.

21. Râm.

We sacrifice unto Râma *Hvâstra*; we sacrifice unto the holy Vayu; we sacrifice unto Vayu, who works highly and is more powerful to destroy than all other creatures. Unto that part of thee do we sacrifice, O Vayu, that belongs to Spenta-Mainyu. We sacrifice unto the sovereign Sky; we sacrifice unto the Boundless Time; we sacrifice unto the sovereign Time of the long Period.

22. Bâd.

We sacrifice unto the beneficent, bounteous Wind; we sacrifice unto the wind that blows below; we sacrifice unto the wind that blows above; we sacrifice unto the wind that blows before; we sacrifice unto the wind that blows behind. We sacrifice unto the manly Courage.

23. Dai pa Dîn.

We sacrifice unto the Maker Ahura Mazda, the bright and glorious; we sacrifice unto the Ameshaspentas.

24. Dîn.

We sacrifice unto the most right *Kîsta*, made by Mazda and holy; we sacrifice unto the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda.

25. Ard.

We sacrifice unto Ashi Vanguhi, the bright, high, strong, tall-formed, and merciful; we sacrifice unto the Glory made by Mazda; we sacrifice unto the Weal made by Mazda. We sacrifice unto Pâren*di*, of the light chariot; we sacrifice unto the Glory of the Aryas, made by Mazda; we sacrifice

unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto that awful Glory, that cannot be forcibly seized, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the Glory of Zarathustra, made by Mazda.

26. Âstâd.

We sacrifice unto Arstât, who makes the world grow ; we sacrifice unto Mount Ushi-darena, made by Mazda, a God of holy happiness.

27. Âsmân.

We sacrifice unto the shining Heavens ; we sacrifice unto the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy ones.

28. Zemyâd.

We sacrifice unto the Earth, a beneficent God ; we sacrifice unto these places, unto these fields ; we sacrifice unto Mount Ushi-darena, made by Mazda, a God of holy happiness ; we sacrifice unto all the mountains, that are seats of holy happiness, of full happiness, made by Mazda, the holy and masters of holiness ; we sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the awful Glory that cannot be forcibly seized, made by Mazda.

29. Mahraspand.

We sacrifice unto the Mâthra Spenta, of high glory ; we sacrifice unto the Law opposed to the Daêvas ; we sacrifice unto the Law of Zarathustra ; we sacrifice unto the long-traditional teaching ; we sacrifice unto the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the Devotion to the Mâthra Spenta ; we sacrifice unto the understanding that keeps the Law of the worshippers of Mazda ; we sacrifice unto

the knowledge of the *Mâthra Spenta*; we sacrifice unto the heavenly Wisdom, made by Mazda; we sacrifice unto the Wisdom acquired through the ear and made by Mazda.

30. Anêrân.

We sacrifice unto the eternal and sovereign luminous space; we sacrifice unto the bright *Garônmâna*; we sacrifice unto the sovereign place of eternal Weal; we sacrifice unto the *Kinvat*-bridge, made by Mazda; we sacrifice unto *Apâm Napât*, the swift-horsed, the high and shining lord, who has many wives; and we sacrifice unto the water, made by Mazda and holy; we sacrifice unto the golden and tall *Haoma*; we sacrifice unto the enlivening *Haoma*, who makes the world grow; we sacrifice unto *Haoma*, who keeps death far away; we sacrifice unto the pious and good Blessing; we sacrifice unto the awful, powerful, cursing thought of the wise, a God; we sacrifice unto all the holy Gods of the heavenly world; we sacrifice unto all the holy Gods of the material world.

I praise, I invoke, I meditate upon, and we sacrifice unto the good, strong, beneficent *Fravashis* of the holy ones¹.

¹ Cf. *Yasna XXVI, 1*.

I. ORMAZD YAST.

The Ormazd Yast, properly so called, ends with § 23. The rest of the Yast, from § 24 to the end, is wanting in several manuscripts, and is supposed by the Parsis to be a fragment of the Bahman Yast.

The Ormazd Yast is exclusively devoted to an enumeration of the names of Ahura and to a laudation of their virtues and efficacy: the recitation of these names is the best defence against all dangers.

§§ 1-6. The names of Ahura Mazda are the most powerful part of the Holy Word.

§§ 7-8. The twenty names of Ahura Mazda are enumerated.

§§ 9-11. Efficacy of these names.

§§ 12-15. Another list of names.

§§ 16-19. Efficacy of Ahura's names.

§§ 20-23. Sundry formulas of invocation.

As may be seen from this summary, the subject has been treated twice over, first in §§ 1-11, and then in §§ 12-19; yet it does not appear that this Yast was formed out of two independent treatises, and it is more likely that the vague and indefinite enumeration in §§ 12-15, which interrupts so clumsily the train of ideas, is due either to an interpolation or simply to the literary deficiency of the writer himself.

The Ormazd Yast is recited every day at the Hâvan Gâh, after the morning prayer (Anquetil, *Zend-Avesta*, II, 143): it is well also to recite it when going to sleep and when changing one's residence (§ 17).

Speculations on the mystical powers of God's names have always been common among Orientals. The number of these names went on increasing: Dastûr Nôshîrvân wrote on the 101 names of God; Dastûr Marzbân on his 125 names. With the Musulmans, Allah had 1001 names. On the names of God among the Jews, see *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft*, XXXV, pp. 162, 532.

We have three native translations of this Yast; one in Pahlavi (East India Office, XII, 39, and St. Petersburg, XCIX, 39; edited by Carl Salemann), one in Persian (East India Office, XXII, 43), and one in Sanskrit (Paris, fonds Burnouf, V, 66); the last two edited in our *Études Iraniennes*, II, 255).

The second part of the Yast, the so-called Bahman Yast fragment, is in a state of the utmost corruption. It is difficult to trace any connection in the ideas, yet §§ 28, 29, 30 seem to point rather clearly to the final struggle between Ormazd and Ahriman and to the annihilation of the Daêvas, and, thereby, some connection is established between this fragment and the Pahlavi Bahman Yast¹, which deals with the same subject. If that correspondence be real, § 26 might refer to the beginning of the Pahlavi Bahman Yast, in which Zarathustra is shown by Ahura the times to come and the end of the world.

Of this fragment we have only a bad Pahlavi translation in the St. Petersburg manuscript mentioned above.

o². May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced! May Angra Mainyu be destroyed! by those who do truly what is the foremost wish (of God³).

I praise well-thought, well-spoken, and well-done thoughts, words, and deeds. I embrace all good thoughts, good words, and good deeds; I reject all evil thoughts, evil words, and evil deeds.

I give sacrifice and prayer unto you, O Amesha-Spentas! even with the fulness of my thoughts, of my words, of my deeds, and of my heart: I give unto you even my own life⁴.

I recite the 'Praise of Holiness⁵:'

'Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good. Well is it for it, well is it for that holiness which is perfection of holiness!'

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura⁶;

¹ Translated by West (Pahlavi Texts, I).

² The formulas of this section serve as an introduction to all Yasts.

³ The last clause of this sentence is imitated from Yasna XLVI [XLV], 19: 'he who does truly in holiness what was the foremost wish of Zarathustra' (that is, what he ordered most earnestly; Pahl. Comm.).

⁴ 'If I must give up my life for the sake of my soul, I give it up' (Pahl. Comm.). The two sentences, 'I praise . . .', 'I give unto you . . .', are taken from Yasna XI, 17, 18 [XII].

⁵ The Ashem Vohû, one of the holiest and most frequently recited prayers.

⁶ The Fravarânê or profession of faith of the Zoroastrian (Yasna I, 23 [65-68]).

For sacrifice¹, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani]², the holy and master of holiness ;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Sâvanghi and Vîsya]³, the holy and masters of holiness ;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto the Masters of the days, of the periods of the day, of the months, of the seasons, and of the years⁴ ;

Unto AHURA MAZDA, bright and glorious, be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness : the riches of Vohû-Manô shall be given to him who works in this world for Mazda, and wields according to the will of Ahura the power he gave him to relieve the poor.

1. Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda : 'O Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One !

'What of the Holy Word is the strongest ? What is the most victorious ? What is the most glorious ? What is the most effective ?

2. 'What is the most fiend-smiting ? What is the best-healing ? What destroyeth best the malice of Daévas and Men ? What maketh the material world best come to the fulfilment of its wishes⁵ ? What freeth the material world best from the anxieties of the heart⁶ ?'

¹ He shows himself a Zoroastrian by offering sacrifice

² The actual Gâh during which the Yast is being recited must be mentioned here. Hâvani is the first Gâh (see Gâhs).

³ The Genii who co-operate with Hâvani, his hamkârs ; for each Gâh the names of its proper hamkârs should be mentioned (see Gâhs).

⁴ See Vendîdâd VIII, 19, text and notes.

⁵ Pun minishn it barâ matârtûm, mandûm frârûn (Phl. tr.); manasas asti prâpakatarâ (Sansk. tr.); مراد رساننده (Pers. tr.).

⁶ Pun akhû it barâ mûshîtârtûm : pim(i) u mandûm î apârûn

3. Ahura Mazda answered : ' Our Name, O Spī-tama Zarathustra ! who are the Amesha-Spentas, that is the strongest part of the Holy Word ; that is the most victorious ; that is the most glorious ; that is the most effective ;

4. ' That is the most fiend-smiting ; that is the best-healing ; that destroyeth best the malice of Daêvas and Men ; that maketh the material world best come to the fulfilment of its wishes ; that freeth the material world best from the anxieties of the heart.'

5. Then Zarathustra said : ' Reveal unto me that name of thine, O Ahura Mazda ! that is the greatest, the best, the fairest, the most effective, the most fiend-smiting, the best-healing, that destroyeth best the malice of Daêvas and Men ;

6. ' That I may afflict all Daêvas and Men ; that I may afflict all Yâtus and Pairikas¹ ; that neither Daêvas nor Men may be able to afflict me ; neither Yâtus nor Pairikas.'

7. Ahura Mazda replied unto him : ' My name is the One of whom questions are asked², O holy Zarathustra !

' My second name is the Herd-giver³.

' My third name is the Strong One⁴.

(Phl. tr.); vitarkânâm asti mûshakatarâ (Sansk. tr.); خیا لات
دفع کننده بیم چیزی اوارون (Pers. tr.).

¹ See Vendîdâd, Introd. IV, 20-21.

² As the revealer of the law, which is generally expounded by a process of questions from Zarathustra and answers from Ahura. The revelation itself is called spentô frasna, ' the holy questions ' (Vendîdâd XXII, 19).

³ ' That is, I give herds of men and cattle ' (Phl. tr.).

⁴ ' Strong, that is, I have strength for the works of the law ' (Phl. tr.); the Sanskrit translation has, ' powerful, that is, I have power to create.'

‘My fourth name is Perfect Holiness¹.

‘My fifth name is All good things created by Mazda, the offspring of the holy principle.

‘My sixth name is Understanding²;

‘My seventh name is the One with understanding.

‘My eighth name is Knowledge;

‘My ninth name is the One with Knowledge.

8. ‘My tenth name is Weal;

‘My eleventh name is He who produces weal.

‘My twelfth name is AHURA (the Lord)³.

‘My thirteenth name is the most Beneficent.

‘My fourteenth name is He in whom there is no harm⁴.

‘My fifteenth name is the unconquerable One.

‘My sixteenth name is He who makes the true account⁵.

‘My seventeenth name is the All-seeing One.

‘My eighteenth name is the healing One.

‘My nineteenth name is the Creator.

‘My twentieth name is MAZDA (the All-knowing One).

9. ‘Worship me, O Zarathustra, by day and by

¹ Asha-Vahista, which is the name of the second Ameshaspenta too. The commentary has: ‘That is, my own being is all holiness.’

² Literally: ‘My sixth name is that I am Understanding.’ The same construction is used with regard to the eighth, the tenth, and the nineteenth names.

³ ‘It follows from this passage that a man is not fit to be a king, unless he possesses twelve virtues’ (Phl. tr.).

⁴ ‘Some say: I keep harm from man’ (Phl. tr.).

⁵ ‘That is, I make the account of good works and sins’ (Phl. tr.); *prakaṣam gaṇanâkaras kila puṣyapâpayos saṅkhyâm aham karomi* (Sansk. tr.). Cf. Yasna XXXII, 6, b.

night, with offerings of libations well accepted¹. I will come unto thee for help and joy, I, Ahura Mazda; the good, holy Sraosha will come unto thee for help and joy; the waters, the plants, and the Fravashis of the holy ones will come unto thee for help and joy.

10. 'If thou wantest, O Zarathustra, to destroy the malice of Daêvas and Men, of the Yâtus and Pairikas, of the oppressors, of the blind and of the deaf², of the two-legged ruffians³, of the two-legged Ashemaoghas⁴, of the four-legged wolves;

11. 'And of the hordes with the wide front, with the many spears⁵, with the straight spears, with the spears uplifted, bearing the spear of havock; then, recite thou these my names every day and every night.

¹ Yasô-bereta: prâptena dânena; یافتہ ذہشن زور.

² The Kavis and the Karapans, the blind and the deaf, are those 'who cannot see nor hear anything of God.' Those terms were current in the theological language of the Sassanian times to designate the unbelievers. An edict, promulgated by king Yazd-gard III (fifth century A. C.) to make Zoroastrism the state religion in Armenia, had the following words: 'You must know that any man who does not follow the religion of Mazda is deaf, blind, and deceived by Ahriman's dev's' (Elisaeus, The War of Vartan).

³ Or murderers (mairya); according to the Parsis highway-men (اے زن).

⁴ The heretics. Casuists distinguish three kinds of Ashemaogha: the deceiver (frîftâr), the self-willed (khôt dôshak), and the deceived (frîftak). The first and worst is one who knowingly leads people astray, making forbidden what is lawful, and lawful what is forbidden; the second is one who follows his own will and reason, instead of applying to a Dastûr (a spiritual guide) for direction; the third is one who has been led astray by another.

⁵ Drafsa means also banner: the Persian درفش, derived from drafsa, has preserved the two meanings. The Sanskrit translation has sastra, the Persian has سلاح.

12. 'I am the Keeper¹; I am the Creator and the Maintainer²; I am the Discerner³; I am the most beneficent Spirit.

'My name is the bestower of health; my name is the best bestower of health.

'My name is the Âthravan⁴; my name is the most Âthravan-like of all Âthravans.

'My name is Ahura (the Lord).

'My name is Mazdæu (the all-knowing).

'My name is the Holy; my name is the most Holy.

'My name is the Glorious; my name is the most Glorious.

'My name is the Full-seeing; my name is the Fullest-seeing.

'My name is the Far-seeing; my name is the Farthest-seeing.

13. 'My name is the Protector; my name is the Well-wisher; my name is the Creator; my name is the Keeper; my name is the Maintainer.

'My name is the Discerner; my name is the Best Discerner.

'My name is the Prosperity-producer⁵; my name is the Word of Prosperity⁶.

'My name is the King who rules at his will;

¹ 'I keep the creation' (Phl. tr.).

² 'I created the world and I maintain it' (ibid.).

³ 'I can know what is useful and what is hurtful' (ibid.).

⁴ 'The priest.'

⁵ 'I impart increase to the righteous' (Phl. tr.).

⁶ Doubtful. *Fsûsô-mâthrô* is used in several passages as the name of a part of the Avesta, Yasna LVIII [LVII], which appears to be called so from the presence in it of the words *fsûsa*, *fsûmanî*, 'thriving, causing to thrive,' which aptly express its contents.

my name is the King who rules most at his will.

‘My name is the liberal King¹; my name is the most liberal King.

14. ‘My name is He who does not deceive; my name is He who is not deceived.

‘My name is the good Keeper; my name is He who destroys malice; my name is He who conquers at once; my name is He who conquers everything; my name is He who has shaped everything².

‘My name is All weal; my name is Full weal; my name is the Master of weal.

15. ‘My name is He who can benefit at his wish; my name is He who can best benefit at his wish.

‘My name is the Beneficent One; my name is the Energetic One; my name is the most Beneficent.

‘My name is Holiness; my name is the Great One; my name is the good Sovereign; my name is the Best of Sovereigns.

‘My name is the Wise One; my name is the Wisest of the Wise; my name is He who does good for a long time.

16. ‘These are my names.

‘And he who in this material world, O Spitama Zarathustra! shall recite and pronounce those names of mine³ either by day or by night ;

¹ Nâma, translated âpât, and interpreted Khutâi râ. The Sanskrit translator has misread âzât for âpât, and translated svatantra, independent.

² The commentator observes orthodoxly, ‘everything good.’

³ That is to say, who will recite this Yast.

17. 'He who shall pronounce them, when he rises up or when he lays him down; when he lays him down or when he rises up; when he binds on the sacred girdle¹ or when he unbinds the sacred girdle; when he goes out of his dwelling-place, or when he goes out of his town, or when he goes out of his country and comes into another country;

18. 'That man, neither in that day nor in that night, shall be wounded by the weapons of the foe who rushes Aêshma-like² and is Drug-minded; not the knife, not the cross-bow, not the arrow, not the sword, not the club, not the sling-stone³ shall reach and wound him.

19. 'But those names shall come in to keep him from behind and to keep him in front⁴, from the Drug unseen, from the female Varenya fiend⁵, from the evil-doer⁶ bent on mischief⁷, and from that fiend who is all death, Angra Mainyu. It will be as if there were a thousand men watching over one man⁸.

20. "Who is he who will smite the fiend in order to maintain thy ordinances? Teach me clearly thy

¹ The *aiwyâonghanem* or *kôsti* (see *Vendîdâd* XVIII, p. 191, note 4).

² Or 'with anger.'

³ *Akavô*, *êakavô*, *ishavô*, *kareta*, *vazra*, translated *kartari*, *êakra*, *sara*, *sastrikâ*, *vagra*.

⁴ *Min akhar u lûfn* (Phl. tr.); *prishtha*[ta]s *purataska* (Sansk. tr.).

⁵ Interpreted as the demon of lust and envy. Cf. *Vendîdâd*, *Introd.* IV, 23.

⁶ *Kayadha*, translated *kâstâr* (Phl.), 'the impairer;' *kadartaka* (Sansk.), 'he who holds for nothing, who makes slight of.'

⁷ Doubtful. The Phl. tr. has 'who impairs living creatures,' etc.

⁸ Cf. *Yt.* XIII, 71.

rules for this world and for the next, that Sraosha may come with Vohu-Manô and help whomsoever thou pleasest¹.”

21. ‘Hail to the Glory of the Kavis²! Hail to the Airyanem Vaêgah³! Hail to the Saoka⁴, made by Mazda! Hail to the waters of the Dâitya⁵! Hail to Ardvi⁶, the undefiled well! Hail to the whole world of the holy Spirit!

‘Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord’⁷

‘Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good’⁸

22. ‘We worship the Ahuna Vairya⁹. We worship Asha-Vahista, most fair, undying, and beneficent¹⁰. We worship Strength and Prosperity and Might and Victory and Glory and Vigour¹¹. We worship Ahura Mazda, bright and glorious.

‘Yênghê hâtãm¹²: All those beings¹³ of whom Ahura Mazda knows the goodness¹⁴ for a sacrifice

¹ From Yasna XLIV, 16; cf. Vendîdâd VIII, 20.

² See Sîrôzah I, 9, p. 7, note 2.

³ Irân Vêg; see Vendîdâd, p. 3.

⁴ Saoka; see Sîrôzah I, 3.

⁵ See Vendîdâd, p. 5, note 2.

⁶ Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, the great goddess of the waters; see Yt. V.

⁷ See above, p. 23.

⁸ See above, p. 22.

⁹ The prayer yathâ ahû vairyô, known as Ahuna vairya (Honover), from the first words in it: ahû vairyô. See above, p. 23.

¹⁰ Or ‘the fairest Amesha-Spenta;’ cf. Vend. Introd. IV, 7.

¹¹ Impersonated as gods, to obtain from them the benefits of which they are the impersonations.

¹² A formula found at the end of most chapters of the Yasna and imitated from Yasna LI [L], 22.

¹³ The Amesha-Spentas (Pahl. Comm. ad Yasna XXVII, fin.).

¹⁴ The benefits of which they dispose, and which they impart as rewards to the righteous.

[performed] in holiness, all those beings, males¹ and females², do we worship.

23. 'Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

'I bless the sacrifice and the prayer unto Ahura Mazda, bright and glorious, and his strength and vigour³.'

(Bahman Yast⁴.)

24. 'O Zarathustra! keep thou for ever that man who is friendly [to me] from the foe unfriendly [to me]! Do not give up that friend unto the stroke (of the foe), unto vexations to be borne; wish no harm unto that man who would offer me a sacrifice, be it ever so great or ever so small, if it has reached unto us, the Amesha-Spentas.

25. 'Here is Vohu-Manô, my creature, O Zarathustra! here is Asha-Vahista, my creature, O Zarathustra! here is Khsathra-Vairya, my creature, O Zarathustra! here is Spenta-Ârmaiti, my creature, O Zarathustra! here are Haurvatât and Ameretât, who are the reward of the holy ones⁵, when freed from their bodies, my creatures, O Zarathustra!

26. 'Thou knowest this, and how it is, O holy Zarathustra! from my understanding and from my knowledge; namely, how the world first began⁶, and how it will end⁷.

¹ The first three.

² The last three, whose names are feminine.

³ Which he will impart in return to his worshippers.

⁴ See above, p. 21.

⁵ As the Genii who preside over plants and waters, they are very likely entrusted with the care of feeding the righteous in Paradise. Cf. Yt. XXII, 18.

⁶ From Yasna XXVIII, 12.

⁷ Cf. Yasna XXX, 4.

‘ A thousand remedies, ten thousand remedies !’

‘ A thousand remedies, ten thousand remedies !’

‘ A thousand remedies, ten thousand remedies !’

27. ‘ [We worship] the well-shapen, tall-formed Strength ; Verethraghna, made by Ahura ; the crushing Ascendant², and Spenta-Ârmaiti.

28. ‘ And with the help of Spenta-Ârmaiti, break ye³ asunder their⁴ malice, turn their minds astray, bind their hands, make their knees quake against one another, bind their tongues⁵.

‘ When, O Mazda ! shall the faithful smite the wicked⁶ ? When shall the faithful smite the Drug ? When shall the faithful smite the wicked ?’

29. Then Zarathustra said : ‘ I threw you back into the earth⁷, and by the eyes of Spenta-Ârmaiti⁸ the ruffian was made powerless⁹.

30. ‘ We worship the powerful Gaokerena¹⁰, made by Mazda ; the powerful Gaokerena, made by Mazda.

31. ‘ We worship the memory of Ahura Mazda, to keep the Holy Word.

‘ We worship the understanding of Ahura Mazda, to study the Holy Word.

‘ We worship the tongue of Ahura Mazda, to speak forth the Holy Word.

¹ Yasna LXVIII, 15 (LXVII, 50).

² See Sîrôzah I, 20.

³ Refers probably to the Izeds mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

⁴ Of the foes alluded to § 24.

⁵ Derezvan ; see Yt. XI, 2.

⁶ Cf. Yasna XLVIII [XLVII], 2.

⁷ I follow the reading *zamerena*, which is followed by the Pahlavi translation too. In the Yasna IX, 15 (46) Zarathustra is said to have obliged the Daêvas to hide themselves in the earth.

⁸ Cf. Yt. XIX, 94.

⁹ Cf. Vend. IX, 12-13.

¹⁰ See Sîrôzah I, 7.

‘We worship the mountain that gives understanding, that preserves understanding¹; [we worship it] by day and by night, with offerings of libations well-accepted².

32. ‘We worship that creation [of Ahura’s], Spenta-Ârmaiti; and the holy creations of that creature and of Asha [Vahista], that are foremost in holiness³.

‘Here I take as lord and master⁴ the greatest of all, Ahura Mazda; to smite the fiend Angra Mainyu; to smite Aêsmâ of the wounding spear⁵; to smite the Mâzainya fiends⁶; to smite all the Daêvas and the Varenya fiends⁶; to increase Ahura Mazda,

¹ That mount is called in later literature Mount Ôsdâstâr (the Pahlavi translation of ushi-darena, the keeper of understanding). According to the Bundahis (XII, 15), it stands in Seistan. High mountains, being nearer heaven, are apt to become in the spirit of mythology the seat of heavenly beings or treasures. It was on the top of a mountain that Ahura revealed the law (see Vd. XXII, 19 [53]); the first man and king, Gayomarth, ruled on a mountain and was called Gar-shâh, the king of the mountain. When the Kayanian family failed, the Iranians went to Mount Alborz and found there Kai Kobâd waiting for his fate.

² The order of the text differs in one series of manuscripts, in which it begins with § 31; then comes § 29 with the following additional words:

‘A thousand remedies, ten thousand remedies! (three times; cf. above, § 26.)

We worship the Fravashi of the man whose name is Asmô-hvanant; then I will worship the Fravashis of the other holy ones who were strong of faith’ (Yt. XXII, 37).

Asmô-hvanant was one of the first followers of Zarathustra, and with his name begins the enumeration of the Fravashis (Yt. XIII, 96).

Then follows § 30, and then again § 31 with the Ashem Vohû; and then the additional passage, ‘We worship . . . ,’ is repeated twice.

³ Vispêrad XIX, 2.

⁴ As ahu and ratu, that is, as temporal chief and spiritual guide.

⁵ See Vend. Introd. IV, 22.

⁶ Ibid. 23.

bright and glorious; to increase the Amesha-Spentas; to increase the star Tistrya¹, the bright and glorious; to increase the faithful men; to increase all the holy creatures of the Beneficent Spirit.

‘Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good’²

33. ‘[Give] unto that man³ brightness and glory, give him health of body, give him sturdiness of body, give him victorious strength of body, give him full welfare of wealth, give him a virtuous⁴ offspring, give him long, long life, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones⁵.

‘May it come according to my blessing⁶!’

‘A thousand remedies, ten thousand remedies⁷!’
(three times.)

‘Come to me for help, O Mazda!’

‘We worship the well-shapen, tall-formed Strength, and Verethraghna, made by Mazda, and the crushing Ascendant⁸.

‘We worship Râma *Hvâstra*, and Vayu who works highly and is more powerful to destroy than all other creatures. That part of thee do we worship, O Vayu, that belongs to Spenta Mainyu. We worship the sovereign Sky, the boundless Time, and the sovereign Time of the long Period⁹.

‘Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good’

¹ See Yast VIII.

² As above, p. 22.

³ Who shall offer thee a sacrifice. This paragraph is taken from Yasna LXVIII, 11 (LXVII, 32), where it is addressed to the Waters: ‘Ye, good waters, give unto that man who will offer you a sacrifice’

⁴ *Susîla* (Sansk. tr. ad Yasna LXI, 13).

⁵ This clause serves as a conclusion to all Yasts.

⁶ From Yasna LXVIII, 20 (LXVII, 52).

⁷ Cf. above, § 26.

⁸ Cf. *Sîrôzah* I, 20.

⁹ *Ibid.* 21.

II. HAPTÂN YAST.

The Yast of the seven Amshaspands is recited on the first seven days of the week, that is to say, on the days consecrated to the Amesha-Spentas. In fact it is nothing more than an extract from the Sirôzahs, being composed of the first seven formulas in their two forms: §§ 1-5 = Sirôzah I, 1-7; §§ 6-10 = Sirôzah II, 1-7. Then come four sections which are the original part of the Yast (§§ 11-15).

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced¹!

Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good¹

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura ;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness¹

I.

1². To Ahura Mazda, bright and glorious, and to the Amesha-Spentas ;

To Vohu-Manô ; to Peace, whose breath is friendly, and who is more powerful to destroy than all other creatures ; to the heavenly Wisdom, made by Mazda, and to the Wisdom acquired through the ear, made by Mazda ;

2³. To Asha-Vahista, the fairest ; to the much-desired Airyaman ; to the instrument made by Mazda ; and to the good Saoka, with eyes of love, made by Mazda and holy ;

¹ The rest as above, Yt. I, o.

² Sirôzah I, 1-2.

³ Sirôzah I, 3-4.

To Khshathra-Vairya; to the metals; to Mercy and Charity.

3¹. To the good Spenta-Ârmaiti, and to the good Râta, with eyes of love, made by Mazda and holy;

To Haurvatât, the master; to the prosperity of the seasons and to the years, the masters of holiness;

And to Ameretât, the master; to fatness and flocks; to the plenty of corn; and to the powerful Gaokerena, made by Mazda.

4². (At the Gâh Hâvan): To Mithra, the lord of wide pastures and to Râma Hvâstra.

(At the Gâh Rapithwin): To Asha-Vahista and to Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda.

(At the Gâh Uzîren): To Apâm Napât, the tall lord, and to water, made by Mazda.

5³. (At the Gâh Aiwisrûthrem): To the Fravashis of the faithful and to the females that bring forth flocks of males; to the prosperity of the seasons; to the well-shapen and tall-formed Strength; to Vere-thraghna, made by Ahura, and to the crushing Ascendant.

(At the Gâh Usahin): To the holy, devout, fiend-smiting Sraosha, who makes the world grow; to Rashnu-Razista and to Arstât, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase³;

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification!

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

¹ Sîrôzah I, 5-7.

² Sîrôzah I, 7.

³ Sîrôzah I, 7.

II.

6¹. We sacrifice unto Ahura Mazda, bright and glorious ; we sacrifice unto the Amesha-Spentas, the all-ruling, the all-beneficent.

We sacrifice unto Vohu-Manô, the Amesha-Spenta ; we sacrifice unto Peace, whose breath is friendly, and who is more powerful to destroy than all other creatures ; we sacrifice unto the heavenly Wisdom, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the wisdom acquired through the ear, made by Mazda.

7². We sacrifice unto Asha-Vahista, the fairest, the Amesha-Spenta ; we sacrifice unto the much-desired Airyaman ; we sacrifice unto the instrument made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the good Saoka, with eyes of love, made by Mazda and holy.

We sacrifice unto Khshathra-Vairya ; we sacrifice unto the metals ; we sacrifice unto Mercy and Charity.

8³. We sacrifice unto the good Spenta-Ârmaiti ; we sacrifice unto the good Râta, with eyes of love, made by Mazda and holy.

We sacrifice unto Haurvatât, the Amesha-Spenta ; we sacrifice unto the prosperity of the seasons ; we sacrifice unto the years, the holy and masters of holiness.

We sacrifice unto Ameretât, the Amesha-Spenta ; we sacrifice unto fatness and flocks ; we sacrifice unto the plenty of corn ; we sacrifice unto the powerful Gaokerena, made by Mazda.

9⁴. (At the Gâh Hâvan) : We sacrifice unto

¹ Sirôzah II, 1-2.

³ Sirôzah II, 5-7.

² Sirôzah II, 3-4.

⁴ Sirôzah II, 7.

Mithra, the lord of wide pastures ; we sacrifice unto Râma *Hvâstra*.

(At the Gâh Rapithwin) : We sacrifice unto Asha-Vahista and Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda.

(At the Gâh Uzîren) : We sacrifice unto Apâm Napât, the swift-horsed, the tall and shining lord, the lord of the females ; we sacrifice unto the holy waters, made by Mazda.

10¹. (At the Gâh Aiwisrûthrem) : We sacrifice unto the good, powerful, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful ; we sacrifice unto the females who bring forth flocks of males ; we sacrifice unto the prosperity of the seasons ; we sacrifice unto the well-shapen, tall-formed Strength ; we sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Mazda ; we sacrifice unto the crushing Ascendant.

(At the Gâh Usahin) : We sacrifice unto the holy, tall-formed, fiend-smiting Sraosha, who makes the world grow, the holy and master of holiness ; we sacrifice unto Rashnu-Razista ; we sacrifice unto Arstât, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase

III.

11. Let the Yâtus be crushed, O Zarathustra ² ! both Daévas and men ³.

Who is he in whose house, O Spitama Zarathustra ! every Drug is destroyed, every Drug perishes, when he pronounces these words ⁴ :

12⁵. ?

13. It is he who takes the seven Amesha-Spentas,

¹ Sîrôzah II, 7.

² Or : Let Zarathustra crush the Yâtus.

³ The Yâtus are either demons or men : the man-Yâtu is the sorcerer, the wizard. Cf. Yt. VIII, 44.

⁴ Doubtful.

⁵ I am unable to make anything of this section.

the all-ruling, the all-beneficent, as a shield¹ against his enemies.

We worship the Law of the worshippers of Mazda; we worship the waters coming in the shape of a horse², made by Mazda.

14-15. He has renounced trespasses and faults, O Zarathustra! he has renounced all trespasses and faults³, O Zarathustra! when he throws down⁴ the destroyer of Vohu-Manô and his words⁵, with a hundred times hundredfold, with a many times manifold preaching and smiting, and he takes away the Law of Mazda, that was carried away as a prisoner⁶, from the hands of the [ungodly], who are destroyed by his strength.

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

16. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and the prayer, the strength and vigour

Of Ahura Mazda, bright and glorious, and of the Amesha-Spentas;

Of Vohu-Manô; of Peace, whose breath is friendly⁷

¹ Doubtful.

² See Yt. VIII, 5, 42; cf. § 20.

³ Âtare-vîtaremaibyâ . . . vîmraot; cf. âtarâish . . . vî sareman mruyê (Yasna XII, 4 [XIII, 16]): âtareman seems to be a sin by commission, vîtareman a sin by omission.

⁴ Doubtful (fraspâvares: fraspâ is generally translated ramî-tûntan).

⁵ Doubtful.

⁶ Cf. Yt. XIII, 100; XIX, 86; fravasnām is the reverse of uzvazha/ (l. l.).

⁷ The rest as above, § 1.

Of Asha-Vahista, the fairest ; of the much-desired Airyaman¹

Of Khshathra-Vairya, of the metals¹

Of the good Spenta-Ârmaiti and of the good Râta²

Of Haurvatât, the master²

Of Ameretât, the master²

(At the Gâh Hâvan) : Of Mithra³

(At the Gâh Rapithwin) : Of Asha-Vahista³

(At the Gâh Uzîren) : Of the high lord Apãm Napât³

(At the Gâh Aiwisrûthrem) : Of the Fravashis of the faithful⁴

(At the Gâh Usahin) : Of the holy, devout, friend-smiting Sraosha, who makes the world grow ; of Rashnu-Razista and of Arstât, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase.

Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

Give unto that man⁵ brightness and glory, give him health of body, give him sturdiness of body, give him victorious strength of body, give him full welfare of wealth, give him a virtuous offspring, give him long, long life, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

¹ The rest as above, § 2.

² The rest as above, § 3.

³ The rest as above, § 4.

⁴ The rest as above, § 5.

⁵ Who shall offer a sacrifice to the Amshaspands.

III. ARDIBEHIST¹ YAST.

This Yast is for a great part devoted to the praise of the Airyaman prayer, which is described as driving away all the diseases and plagues that have been brought upon the world by Angra Mainyu; and when the writer passes from the glorification of Airyaman to that of Asha-Vahista, which is put into the mouth of Angra Mainyu himself (§§ 13 seq.), he makes him speak of Asha-Vahista just in the same way, and ascribe him just the same powers, as he himself has done with regard to Airyaman. This is owing to the fact of Airyaman being invoked in company with Asha-Vahista in the second formula of the *Sîrôzah*².

The powers ascribed to Asha-Vahista have their origin in the twofold nature of that *Amesha-Spenta*, who being, in his abstract character, the impersonation of the highest element in Mazdeism, Divine Order and Holiness³, and in his concrete character, the genius who presides over the mightiest of physical elements, Fire⁴, is one of the most powerful and dreaded opponents of Angra Mainyu⁵. On the other hand, Airyaman is the genius to whom Ahura Mazda applied to heal the nine, and ninety, and nine hundred and nine thousand diseases created by Angra Mainyu⁶.

This Yast is recited every day at the *Gâhs Hâvan*, *Rapithwin*, and *Aiwisrûthrem* (*Anquetil*).

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the *Daêvas* and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [*Hâvani*], the holy and master of holiness⁷. . . .

¹ *Ard-î-behist* is the Parsi form for *Asha vahista*, and being derived from *arta*, the Persian form corresponding to the Zend *asha*.

² See *Sîrôzah* I, 3, and below the introductory formula.

³ See *Vend. Introd.* IV, 30.

⁴ *Ibid.* 33.

⁵ See *Yt.* XVII, 18.

⁶ *Fargard* XXII and *Introd.*

⁷ As above, *Yt.* I, o.

Unto Asha-Vahista, the fairest; unto the much-desired Airyaman, made by Mazda, and unto the good Saoka, with eyes of love, made by Mazda and holy¹;

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness²

I.

1. Ahura Mazda spake unto Spitama Zarathustra, saying: 'That thou mayest increase Asha-Vahista, O Spitama Zarathustra! with hymns of praise, with performance of the office, with invocations, holy words, sacrifice, blessings, and adoration—once to abide in the shining luminous space, in the beautiful abodes³—for the sacrifice and invocation of us, the Ameshaspe⁴

2. Zarathustra said: 'Say unto me the right words, such as they are, O Ahura Mazda! that I may increase Asha-Vahista, with hymns of praise,

¹ Sîrôzah I, 3.

² Several manuscripts add here the full invocation of the greater Sîrôzah:

'We sacrifice unto Asha-Vahista, the fairest, the Ameshaspe^{ta} ;

We sacrifice unto the much-desired Airyaman ;

We sacrifice unto the instrument, made by Mazda ;

We sacrifice unto the good Saoka, with eyes of love, made by Mazda and holy.'

³ The Garô-nmânem or Paradise; see Yasna XVI, 7 [XVII, 42], Phl. tr.

⁴ The principal clause appears to be wanting, unless Zarathustra is supposed to interrupt Ahura. One might also understand the sentence in an optative sense: 'Mayest thou increase'

with performance of the office, with invocations, holy words, sacrifice, blessings, and adoration,—once to abide in the shining luminous space, in the beautiful abodes,—for the sacrifice and invocation of you, the Amesha-Spentas.

3¹. ‘. . . . I proclaim Asha-Vahista: if I proclaim Asha-Vahista, then easy is the way to the abode of the other Amesha-Spentas², which Ahura Mazda keeps with Good Thoughts, which Ahura Mazda keeps with Good Words, which Ahura Mazda keeps with Good Deeds³;

4. ‘(Easy is the way to the Garô-nmâna of Ahura Mazda): the Garô-nmâna is for the holy souls, and no one of the wicked can enter the Garô-nmâna and its bright, wide, holy ways; (no one of them can go) to Ahura Mazda.

II.

5. ‘The Airyaman prayer⁴ smites down the strength of all the creatures of Angra Mainyu, of the Yâtus and Pairikas⁵. It is the greatest of spells, the best of spells, the very best of all spells; the

¹ Here again it seems as if a paragraph had been lost: ‘Ahura Mazda answered: Proclaim thou Asha-Vahista; if thou proclaimest Asha-Vahista—Then Zarathustra replied: I proclaim Asha-Vahista’

² The Garôthmân.

³ An allusion to the three Paradises of Humat, Hûkht, Hvarst through which the souls of the blessed pass to Garôthmân (Yt. XXII, 15).

⁴ The prayer known as Airyama-ishyô; see Vendîdâd XXI, 11-12.

⁵ See Vend. Introd. IV, 20-21.

fairest of spells, the very fairest of all spells; the fearful one amongst spells, the most fearful of all spells; the firm one amongst spells, the firmest of all spells; the victorious one amongst spells, the most victorious of all spells; the healing one amongst spells, the best-healing of all spells.

6. 'One may heal with Holiness, one may heal with the Law, one may heal with the knife, one may heal with herbs, one may heal with the Holy Word: amongst all remedies this one is the healing one that heals with the Holy Word; this one it is that will best drive away sickness from the body of the faithful: for this one is the best-healing of all remedies¹.

7. 'Sickness fled away [before it], Death fled away; the Daêva fled away, the Daêva's counter-work² fled away; the unholy Ashemaogha³ fled away, the oppressor of men fled away.

8. 'The brood of the Snake fled away; the brood of the Wolf fled away; the brood of the Two-legged⁴ fled away. Pride fled away; Scorn fled away; Hot Fever fled away; Slander fled away; Discord fled away; the Evil Eye fled away.

9. 'The most lying words of falsehood fled away; the Gahi⁵, addicted to the Yâtu, fled away; the

¹ Cf. Vendîdâd VII, 44 (118). That Airyaman made use of the Holy Word (of spells) to cure diseases appears from Vend. XXII, 6 seq.

² Paityâra: every work of Ahura was opposed and spoiled by a counter-work of Angra Mainyu. Cf. Bundahis I, 23 seq.; III, 13 seq.; Vend. I; see Ormazd et Ahriman, §§ 195 seq.

³ See Yt. I, 10 and note 4.

⁴ The Ahrimanian creatures belonging to mankind, the Mairyas and Ashemaoghas (Yt. I, 10).

⁵ The courtesan; cf. Vend. XXI, 17 (35), and Introd. IV, 25.

Gahi, who makes one pine¹, fled away; the wind that blows from the North² fled away; the wind that blows from the North vanished away.

10. 'He it is who smites me that brood of the Snake, and who might smite those *Daêvas* by thousands of thousands, by ten thousands of ten thousands; he smites sickness, he smites death, he smites the *Daêvas*, he smites the *Daêva's* counter-work, he smites the unholy *Ashemaogha*, he smites the oppressor of men.

11. 'He smites the brood of the Snake; he smites the brood of the Wolf; he smites the brood of the Two-legged. He smites Pride; he smites Scorn; he smites Hot Fever; he smites Slander; he smites Discord; he smites the Evil Eye.

12. 'He smites the most lying words of falsehood; he smites the *Gahi*, addicted to the *Yâtu*; he smites the *Gahi*, who makes one pine. He smites the wind that blows from the North; the wind that blows from the North vanished away.

13. 'He it is who smites me that brood of the Two-legged, and who might smite those *Daêvas*, by thousands of thousands, by ten thousands of ten thousands. *Angra Mainyu*, who is all death, the worst-lying of all *Daêvas*, rushed from before him:

14. 'He exclaimed, did *Angra Mainyu*: "Woe is me! Here is the god *Asha-Vahista*, who will smite the sickliest of all sicknesses, who will afflict the sickliest of all sicknesses;

¹ The *Zend* is *Kahvaredhaini*, a synonym of which, *Kahvaredha*, *Yasna LXI*, 2 [LX, 7], is translated *impairer of Glory*, which means very likely: he who makes one 'dwindle, peak, and pine' (cf. *Vend.* XVIII, 62-64).

² From the country of hell; cf. *Vend.* VII, 2; XIX, 1; *Yt.* XXII, 25.

“ He will smite the deadliest of all deaths, he will afflict the deadliest of all deaths ;

“ He will smite the most fiendish of all fiends, he will afflict the most fiendish of all fiends ;

“ He will smite the most counter-working of all counter-works, he will afflict the most counter-working of all counter-works ;

“ He will smite the unholy Ashemaogha, he will afflict the unholy Ashemaogha ;

“ He will smite the most oppressive of the oppressors of men, he will afflict the most oppressive of the oppressors of men.

15. “ He will smite the snakiest of the Snake’s brood, he will afflict the snakiest of the Snake’s brood ;

“ He will smite the most wolfish of the Wolf’s brood, he will afflict the most wolfish of the Wolf’s brood ;

“ He will smite the worst of the two-legged brood, he will afflict the worst of the two-legged brood ;

“ He will smite Pride, he will afflict Pride ;

“ He will smite Scorn, he will afflict Scorn ;

“ He will smite the hottest of hot fevers, he will afflict the hottest of hot fevers ;

“ He will smite the most slanderous of slanders, he will afflict the most slanderous of slanders ;

“ He will smite the most discordant of discords, he will afflict the most discordant of discords ;

“ He will smite the worst of the Evil Eye, he will afflict the worst of the Evil Eye.

16. “ He will smite the most lying words of falsehood, he will afflict the most lying words of falsehood ;

“ He will smite the *Gahi*, addicted to the *Yātu*, he will afflict the *Gahi*, addicted to the *Yātu* ;

“ He will smite the *Gahi*, who makes one pine, he will afflict the *Gahi*, who makes one pine ;

“ He will smite the wind that blows from the North, he will afflict the wind that blows from the North.”

17¹. ‘The Drug will perish away, the Drug will perish ; the Drug will rush, the Drug will vanish. Thou perishest away to the regions of the North, never more to give unto death the living world of the holy spirit ².

18. ‘For his brightness and glory I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard ³, namely, unto *Asha-Vahista*, the fairest, the *Amesha-Spenta*. Unto *Asha-Vahista*, the fairest, the *Amesha-Spenta*, we offer up the libations, the *Haoma* and meat ⁴, the *baresma* ⁵, the wisdom of the tongue ⁶, the holy spells ⁷; the speech, the deeds ⁸, the libations, and the rightly-spoken words.

‘*Yêzhê hâtâm* : All those beings of whom *Ahura Mazda* knows the goodness ⁹

19. ‘*Yathâ ahû vairyô* : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

¹ One set of manuscripts insert : ‘ He will smite the wind that blows against the North, he will afflict the wind that blows against the North ; the wind that blows against the North [will perish].’ This is most likely an interpolation, as the wind that blows against the North (if this is the right meaning of *aparô apâkhtara*, as opposed to *pourvô apâkhtara*) blows against *Angra Mainyu*.

² Cf. *Vendîdâd VIII, 21*.

³ That is to say, worth being accepted : cf. *Yt. X, 32* ; the Parsis translate, ‘ a sacrifice heard [from the lips of the *Dastûrs*]’ (به شنیده) *دستوران* ; *East India Office, XXV, 42*).

⁴ The *Haoma* and *Myazda*.

⁵ See *Vend. III, 1, note 2*.

⁶ *Hizvô danghah* : *huzvân dânâkih* (Phl. tr.) means ‘ the right formulas.’

⁷ ‘ The *Avestâ* ’ (Phl. tr.).

⁸ The several operations of the sacrifice.

⁹ As above, *Yt. I, 22*.

'I bless the sacrifice and prayer and the strength and vigour of Asha-Vahista, the fairest; of the much-desired Airyaman, made by Mazda; and of the good Saoka, with eyes of love, made by Mazda and holy¹.

'Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good²

'[Give] unto that man³ brightness and glory, give him health of body; . . . give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.'

IV. KHORDÂD YAST.

Only the first two sections of this Yast refer to its nominal object, Haurvatât, the Genius of Health and Waters (Vend. Introd. IV, 7, 33). The rest of the Yast refers to the performance of the Bareshnûm ceremony as being the test of the true Zoroastrian. As the Bareshnûm purification was performed by Airyaman to drive away the myriads of diseases created by Angra Mainyu⁴, its laudation is not quite unaptly inserted in a Yast devoted to the Genius of Health.

The Khordâd Yast can be recited at any time. It is better to recite it during the Gâh Usahin, on the day Khordâd (Anquetil).

The text is corrupt.

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness⁵

Unto Haurvatât, the master; unto the prosperity

¹ Cf. Sîrôzah I, 2.

² As above, p. 22.

³ Who shall offer a sacrifice to Asha-Vahista; cf. Yt. I, 33 and notes.

⁴ Vend. XXII, 20 [54].

⁵ As above, p. 22 and notes.

of the seasons and unto the years, the masters of holiness¹,

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

We sacrifice unto Haurvatât, the Amesha-Spenta; we sacrifice unto the prosperity of the seasons; we sacrifice unto the years, the holy and masters of holiness².

1. Ahura Mazda spake unto Spitama Zarathustra, saying: 'I created for the faithful the help, the enjoyments, the comforts, and the pleasures of Haurvatât. We unite them with him who would come up to thee as one of the Amesha-Spentas, as he would come to any of the Amesha-Spentas, Vohu-Manô, Asha-Vahista, Khshathra-Vairya, Spenta-Ârmaiti, Haurvatât, and Ameretât.

2. 'He who against the thousands of thousands of those Daêvas, against their ten thousands of ten thousands, against their numberless myriads would invoke the name of Haurvatât, as one of the Amesha-Spentas, he would smite the Nasu, he would smite Hasi³, he would smite Basi³, he would smite Saêni³, he would smite Bûgi³.

3⁴. 'I proclaim the faithful man as the first [of men]; if I proclaim the faithful man as the first

¹ Sîrôzah I, 6.

² Sîrôzah II, 6.

³ Names of Daêvas. According to the Parsi translator of the Dînkart (vol. ii, p. 65), Hasi is 'he who makes sceptical;' Basi is 'he who gives rise to the barking disease;' Saêni is 'he who causes harm;' Bûgi is 'he who preys upon.'

⁴ The translation of this paragraph is quite conjectural.

[of men]¹, then Rashnu Razista², then every heavenly Yazata of male nature in company with the Amesha-Spentas will free the faithful man³

4. 'From the Nasu, from Hasi, from Gasi⁴, from Saêni, from Bûgi; from the hordes with the wide front, from the hordes with the many spears uplifted, from the evil man who oppresses, from the wilful sinner⁵, from the oppressor of men, from the Yâtu, from the Pairika, from the straying way.

5. 'How does the way of the faithful turn and part from the way of the wicked⁶?'

Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is when a man pronouncing my spell, either reading⁷ or reciting it by heart, draws the furrows⁸ and hides⁹ there himself, [saying]:

6. "I will smite thee, O Drug! whomsoever thou art, whomsoever thou art amongst the Druges that come in an open way, whomsoever thou art amongst the Druges that come by hidden ways, whomsoever thou art amongst the Druges that defile by contact; whatsoever Drug thou art, I smite thee away from the Aryan countries; whatsoever Drug thou art, I bind thee; I smite thee down, O Drug! I throw thee down below, O Drug!"

¹ If I am one of the faithful.

² The Genius of Truth, Yt. XII.

³ Will free me as one of the faithful.

⁴ Sic; cf. § 2.

⁵ Starâi; cf. *Études Iraniennes*, II, 135.

⁶ How is the wicked known from the faithful one?

⁷ Marâo: Phl. ôsmôrît, Sansk. adhyeti; safarûnît, posha-yati (pustakayati? Yasna XIX, 6 [9]).

⁸ The furrows for the Bareshnûm purification (Vend. IX).

⁹ Doubtful: gaozaiti; read yaozdâiti (? he cleanses).

7. 'He draws [then] three furrows¹: I proclaim him one of the faithful; he draws six furrows¹: I proclaim him one of the faithful; he draws nine furrows¹: I proclaim him one of the faithful.

8. 'The names of those (Amesha-Spentas) smite the men turned to Nasus² by the Druges; the seed and kin of the deaf³ are smitten, the scornful⁴ are dead, as the Zaothar Zarathustra blows them away to woe⁵, however fierce, at his will and wish, as many as he wishes.

9. 'From the time when the sun is down he smites them with bruising blows; from the time when the sun is no longer up, he deals deadly blows on the Nasu with his club struck down, for the propitiation and glorification of the heavenly gods.

10. 'O Zarathustra! let not that spell be shown to any one, except by the father to his son, or by the brother to his brother from the same womb, or by the Âthraivan to his pupil⁶ in black hair, devoted to the good law, who, devoted to the good law, holy⁷ and brave, stills all the Druges⁸.

11. 'For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard, namely, unto Haurvatât, the Amesha-Spenta. Unto Haurvatât, the Amesha-Spenta, we offer up the libations, the Haoma and meat, the baresma, the wisdom of the tongue, the

¹ To perform the Bareshnûm; cf. Vend. XXII, 20 [54].

² Reading nasûm kereta; cf. nasu-kereta (Vend. VII, 26 [67]).

³ See above, p. 26, note 2.

⁴ Saoâa; cf. Yt. XXII, 13.

⁵ Duzavât: both the reading and the meaning are doubtful. Mr. West suggests, 'sends to hell' (reading duzanghvât or duzanghat).

⁶ Doubtful.

⁷ Reading ashava instead of asô ava.

⁸ Cf. Yt. XIV, 46.

holy spells, the speech, the deeds, the libations, and the rightly-spoken words.

12. 'Yathâ ahû vairyô : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

'I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of Haurvatât, the master ; of the prosperity of the seasons and of the years, the masters of holiness.

'Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

'[Give] unto that man¹ brightness and glory, . . . give him the bright, all happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.'

V. ÂBÂN YAST.

The Âbân Yast (or Yast of the Waters) is devoted to the great goddess of the waters, the celebrated Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, the 'Avaüris' of the Greeks. Ardvi Sûra Anâhita ('the high, powerful, undefiled') is the heavenly spring from which all waters on the earth flow down ; her fountains are on the top of the mythical mountain, the Hukairyâ, in the star region. Her descent from the heavens is described in §§ 85 seq. ; it reminds one of the Indian legend of the celestial Gaṅgâ.

This Yast contains much valuable information about the historical legends of Iran, as it enumerates the several heroes who worshipped Ardvi Sûra and asked for her help. First of all is Ahura himself (§ 16) ; then came Haoshyangha (§ 21), Yima (§ 25), Azi Dahâka (§ 29), Thraëtaona (§ 33), Keresâspa (§ 37), Franghrasyan (§ 41), Kava Usa (§ 45), Husravah (§ 49), Tusa (§ 53), Vaêsaka's sons (§ 57), Vafra Navâza (§ 61), Gâmâspa (§ 68), Ashavazdah, the son of Pourudhâkhsti, and Ashavazdah and Thrîta, the sons of Sâyuzdri (§ 72), Vistauru (§ 76), Yôista (§ 81) ; the Hvôvas and the Naotaras (§ 98), Zarathustra (§ 103), Kava Vîstâspa (§ 107), Zairivairi (§ 112), Aregat-aspa and Vandaremaini (§ 116).

This enumeration is interrupted by a description of the descent of Ardvi Sûra from the heavens (§§ 85-89), and of certain rules for her sacrifice given by herself to Zarathustra (§§ 90-97). This interruption may have been intentional, as it takes place just when

¹ Who shall have sacrificed to Haurvatât.

the course of the enumeration brings us to the times of Zarathustra and of the institution of the new religion.

The Yast is opened with a laudation of the benefits bestowed by Ardvi Sûra (§§ 1-16), and it closes with a description of her garments and apparel.

The first record of the worship of Ardvi Sûra is in a cuneiform inscription by Artaxerxes Mnemon (404-361), in which her name is corrupted into Anahata. Artaxerxes Mnemon appears to have been an eager promoter of her worship, as he is said 'to have first erected the statues of Venus-Anâhita (*Ἀφροδίτης*, *Ἀναΐτιδος*) in Babylon, Suza, and Ecbatana, and to have taught her worship to the Persians, the Bactrians, and the people of Damas and Sardes' (Clemens Alexandrinus, *Protrept.* 5, on the authority of Berosus; about 260 B. C.). My friend M. Halévy suggests to me that the detailed and circumstantial description of Anâhita's appearance and costume (in §§ 126-131) shows that the writer must have described her from a consecrated type of statuary.

The principal data of the Greek writers on Anâhita will be found in Windischmann's Essay (*Die persische Anahita oder Anaitis*, 1856). One must be cautious in the use of the Greek sources, as the Greeks, with the eclectic turn of their mind, were inclined to confound under the name of Anâhita all the great female deities of Asia Minor, and her name became a common appellation for the Aphrodites as well as for the Artemides of the East.

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness

Unto the good Waters, made by Mazda; unto the holy water-spring ARDVI ANÂHITA; unto all waters, made by Mazda; unto all plants, made by Mazda¹,

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

¹ Sîrôzah I, 10.

I.

1. Ahura Mazda spake unto Spitama Zarathustra, saying : ' Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra ! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sūra Anâhita, the wide-expanding¹ and health-giving, who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura, who is worthy of sacrifice in the material world, worthy of prayer in the material world; the life-increasing² and holy, the herd-increasing and holy, the fold-increasing and holy, the wealth-increasing and holy, the country-increasing and holy ;

2. ' Who makes the seed of all males pure³, who makes the womb of all females pure for bringing forth⁴, who makes all females bring forth in safety, who puts milk into the breasts of all females in the right measure and the right quality ;

3. ' The large river, known afar, that is as large as the whole of the waters that run along the earth ; that runs powerfully from the height Hukairya⁵ down to the sea Vouru-Kasha⁶.

4. ' All the shores of the sea Vouru-Kasha are

¹ ' As she comes down to all places ' (Phl. tr. ad Yasna LXV, 1 [LXVI, 2]).

² Âdhu, translated *gân* ; ' she makes life longer ' (Aspendiârji). Perhaps âdhu will be better translated springs, rivers (reading *gûy* instead of *gân* ; cf. Yt. VIII, 29).

³ ' Pure and sound, without blood and filth ' (Phl. tr.).

⁴ ' So that it may conceive again ' (Phl. tr.).

⁵ ' Hûgar the lofty is that from which the water of Arêdvîvsûr leaps down the height of a thousand men ' (Bundahis XII, 5, tr. West) ; cf. infra, §§ 96, 121, 126 ; Yt. XIII, 24. The Hukairya is mentioned again § 25 and Yt. IX, 8 ; Yt. X, 88 ; Yt. XV, 15 ; Yt. XVII, 28. It appears to be situated in the west (Bundahis XXIV, 17 ; II, 7 ; Minokhired XLIV, 12).

⁶ The earth-surrounding Ocean ; cf. Vendîdâd V, 15 (49) seq., text and notes.

boiling over, all the middle of it is boiling over, when she runs down there, when she streams down there, she, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, who has a thousand cells and a thousand channels¹: the extent of each of those cells, of each of those channels is as much as a man can ride in forty days, riding on a good horse.

5. 'From this river of mine alone flow all the waters that spread all over the seven Karshvares; this river of mine alone goes on bringing waters, both in summer and in winter. This river of mine purifies the seed in males, the womb in females, the milk in females' breasts.

6. 'I, Ahura Mazda, brought it down with mighty vigour, for the increase of the house, of the borough, of the town, of the country, to keep them, to maintain them, to look over them, to keep and maintain them close.

7. 'Then Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, O Spitama Zarathustra! proceeded forth from the Maker Mazda. Beautiful were her white arms, thick as a horse's shoulder or still thicker; beautiful was her², and thus came she, strong, with thick arms, thinking thus in her heart:

8. "Who will praise me? Who will offer me a sacrifice, with libations cleanly prepared and well-strained, together with the Haoma and meat? To whom shall I cleave, who cleaves unto me, and thinks with me, and bestows gifts upon me, and is of good will unto me?"³

9. 'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her

¹ See the description § 101 seq.

² *Zaosa* or *zusa*, an *ἄπαξ λεγόμενον*, seems to designate a part of the body; cf. § 126.

³ Cf. §§ 11, 124.

a sacrifice worth being heard; I will offer up unto the holy Ardvi Sûra Anâhita a good sacrifice with an offering of libations;—thus mayest thou advise us when thou art appealed to! Mayest thou be most fully worshipped, O Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! with the Haoma and meat, with the baresma, with the wisdom of the tongue, with the holy spells, with the words, with the deeds, with the libations, and with the rightly-spoken words.

‘Yêzhê hâtãm¹: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda

II.

10. ‘Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, the wide-expanding and health-giving, who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura, who is worthy of sacrifice in the material world, worthy of prayer in the material world; the life-increasing and holy, the herd-increasing and holy, the fold-increasing and holy, the wealth-increasing and holy, the country-increasing and holy²;

11. ‘Who drives forwards on her chariot, holding the reins of the chariot. She goes, driving, on this chariot, longing for men³ and thinking thus in her heart: “Who will praise me? Who will offer me a sacrifice, with libations cleanly prepared and well-strained, together with the Haoma and meat? To whom shall I cleave, who cleaves unto me, and thinks with me, and bestows gifts upon me, and is of good will unto me?”

‘For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice, worth being heard⁴. . . .

¹ As above, p. 30; § 9 is repeated at the end of every chapter.

² § 10=§ 2.

³ Viz. for their worshipping; cf. Yasna XXIII, 2 [5], paitisma-reñti=Phl. hûmîtnîft, they hope, they expect. Cf. § 123.

⁴ As above, § 9.

III.

12. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra ! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita¹. . . .

13. 'Whom four horses carry, all white, of one and the same colour, of the same blood, tall, crushing down the hates of all haters, of the Daêvas and men, of the Yâtus and Pairikas, of the oppressors, of the blind and of the deaf².

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

IV.

14. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra ! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

15. 'Strong and bright, tall and beautiful of form, who sends down by day and by night a flow of motherly³ waters as large as the whole of the waters that run along the earth, and who runs powerfully⁴.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

V.

16. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra ! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

17. 'To her did the Maker Ahura Mazda offer up a sacrifice⁵ in the Airyana Vaêgah, by the good river Dâitya⁶; with the Haoma and meat, with the baresma, with the wisdom of the tongue, with the holy spells, with the words, with the deeds, with the libations, and with the rightly-spoken words⁷.

¹ As above, § 10.

² Cf. p. 26, note 2.

³ Doubtful; cf. Yt. VIII, 47.

⁴ Cf. above, § 3.

⁵ Cf. Vend. Introd. IV, 9, 40. This is the heavenly prototype of the Mazdean sacrifice as it was later shown to men by Zarathustra; cf. § 101.

⁶ Cf. Yt. I, 4 and notes.

⁷ Cf. Yt. III, 18.

18. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may bring the son of Pourushaspa, the holy Zarathustra, to think after my law, to speak after my law, to do after my law!"

19. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and begging that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

VI.

20. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

21. 'To her did Haoshyangha, the Paradhâta¹, offer up a sacrifice on the enclosure² of the Hara³, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, and ten thousand lambs.

22. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may become the sovereign lord of all countries, of the Daêvas and men, of the

¹ Haoshyangha was the first king of the Paradhâta (Pêsh-dâdyan) dynasty (cf. above, p. 7, note 2, and Bundahis XXXI, 1). It is related in Firdausi's Shâh Nâmah that he was the grandson of Gayomarth, the first man and king, and the son of Syâmak; that his father having been killed by the black Dîv, he encountered him at the head of an army of lions, tigers, birds, and Paris, and destroyed him; he then succeeded his grandfather, and reigned supreme over the seven Keshvars of the earth.

² Doubtful: upabda=upabanda, as thribda (Yt. VIII, 55)=thribanda; it appears from Yt. XV, 7 that the place meant here is the Taêra which is said in the Bundahis (V, 7) to be surrounded by the Albôrz (the Hara).

³ The Hara berezaiti or Albôrz, in Mâzandarân, south of the Caspian Sea, was supposed to surround the earth; cf. Yt. X, 56.

Yâtus and Pairikas, of the oppressors, the blind and the deaf; and that I may smite down two thirds¹ of the Daêvas of Mâzana² and of the fiends of Varena³."

23. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

VII.

24. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

25. 'To her did Yima Khshaêta⁴, the good shepherd, offer up a sacrifice from the height Hukairya⁵, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs.

26. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may become the sovereign lord of all countries, of the Daêvas and men, of the Yâtus and Pairikas, of the oppressors, the blind and the deaf; and that I may take from the Daêvas both

¹ A formula frequently used, not only in the Avesta, but also in the Shâh Nâmah.

² The Daêvas in Mâzandarân. Mâzandarân was held a place of resort for demons and sorcerers, and was in the Iranian legend nearly the same as Ceylon is in the Râmâyana. The Damâvand mountain, to which Azi Dahâka was bound, is the southern boundary of Mâzandarân.

³ See Vend. Introd. IV, 23; cf. this Yast, § 33.

⁴ Yima Khshaêta (Gemshêd), as an earthly king, ruled over the world for a thousand years, while he made immortality reign in it (Yt. IX, 8; XV, 15; cf. Vendîdâd II, Introd.).

⁵ See above, § 3.

riches and welfare, both fatness and flocks, both weal and Glory¹.”

27. ‘Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

‘For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

VIII.

28. ‘Offer up a sacrifice, O Špitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

29. ‘To her did Azi Dahâka², the three-mouthed, offer up a sacrifice in the land of Bawri³, with a

¹ After his brother Takhma Urupa, who reigned before him, had been killed and devoured by Angra Mainyu (Yt. IV, 11, note).

² When Yima began to sin and lost the *Hvarenô* (Glory), he was overthrown by Azi Dahâka (Zohâk), who seized the power and reigned in his place for a thousand years (cf. Yt. XIX, 33 seq.).

Azi Dahâka, literally ‘the fiendish snake,’ was first a mythical personage; he was the ‘snake’ of the storm-cloud, and a counterpart of the Vedic Ahi or *Vritra*. He appears still in that character in Yast XIX seq., where he is described struggling for the *Hvarenô* against Âtar (Fire), in the sea Vourukasha (Vendidâd, Introd. IV, 38; cf. this Yast, § 90). His struggle with Yima Khshaêta bore at first the same mythological character, ‘the shining Yima’ being originally, like the Vedic Yama, a solar hero: when Yima was turned into an earthly king, Azi underwent the same fate. In the *Shâh Nâmah* he is described as a man with two snakes springing from his shoulders: they grew there through a kiss of Ahriman’s. For the myths referring to Azi, see Ormazd et Ahriman, §§ 91–95.

³ Babylon (cf. Yt. XV, 19). The usurper Azi, being a non-Aryan, was identified with the hereditary foe, the Chaldæans: the name of Babylon united in it, at the same time, a dim historical record of the old Assyrian oppression, then shaken off and forgotten, and an actual expression of the national antipathy of the Iranians for their Semitic neighbours in Chaldæa. After the conquest of Persia by the Musulmans, Azi was turned at last into an Arab. The original seat of the Azi myths was on the southern coast of the Caspian Sea (*Études Iraniennes*, II, 210).

hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, and ten thousand lambs.

30. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this boon, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may make all the seven Karshvares of the earth empty of men."

31. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita did not grant him that boon, although he was offering libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating her that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

IX.

32. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

33. 'To her did Thraêtaona¹, the heir² of the valiant Âthwya clan, offer up a sacrifice in the four-cornered Varena³, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs.

34. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may overcome Azi Dahâka, the three-mouthed, the three-headed, the six-eyed, who has a thousand senses⁴, that most powerful, fiendish Drug,

¹ Thraêtaona (Ferîdûn), son of Âthwya, conquered Azi and bound him to Mount Damâvand, where he is to stay till the end of the world, when he shall be let loose and then killed by Keresâspa (Vendidâd, Introd. IV, 12, 18; Bahman Yast III, 55 seq.; Bund. XXIX, 8 seq.).

² Vîsô-puthra = Pahlavi barbitâ (see *Études Iraniennes*, II, 139).

³ Cf. Vend. I, 18 and Introd. IV, 12. Modern tradition supposes Varena to have been the region of Ghilan (very likely on account of its proximity to Mâzandarân and Mount Damâvand).

⁴ See Yt. X, 82, note.

that demon, baleful to the world, the strongest Drug that Angra Mainyu created against the material world, to destroy the world of the good principle¹; and that I may deliver his two wives, Savanghavâk and Erenavâk², who are the fairest of body amongst women, and the most wonderful creatures in the world³."

35. 'Arđvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon,

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

X.

36. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto Arđvi Sûra Anâhita

37. 'To her did Keresâspa⁴, the manly-hearted, offer up a sacrifice behind the Vairi Pisanah⁵, with a

¹ Cf. Yt. XIX, 37.

² The two daughters of Yima, who had been ravished by Azi: they are called in the Shâh Nâmah Shahrinâz and Arnavâz (see *Études Iraniennes*, II, 213, Savanghavâk et Erenavâk). Thraêtaona delivered them, and then married them; he had a son, Airyu, from Arnavâz, and two sons from Shahrinâz, Tura and Sairima; Airyu, Tura, and Sairima became the kings of Irân, Tûrân, and Rôm.

³ Cf. Yt. IX, 14; XV, 24; XVII, 34.

⁴ Keresâspa (Garshâsp), one of the greatest heroes in the Avestean romance, although Firdausi has all but passed him over in silence. See his feats, Yt. XIX, 38 seq.; cf. Yt. V, 27 seq.; Yasna IX, 10 (29); Vend. I, 10 (36).

⁵ The Pisîn valley, south of Cabool. It was in the land of Cabool that the Keresâspa legend had its rise, or at least it was localised there. It is in the plain near the Pisîn valley that Keresâspa lies asleep, till the end of the world comes (see Yt. XIII, 61, note).

hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs.

38. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may overcome the golden-heeled *Gandarewa*¹, though all the shores of the sea *Vouru-Kasha* are boiling over; and that I may run up to the stronghold of the fiend on the wide, round earth, whose ends lie afar."

39. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

¹ A Parsi poem, of a very late date, gives further details about *Gandarewa*. It was a monster who lived 'in the sea, on the mountain, and in the valley;' he was called *Pâshnah zarah*, because the sea did not go above his heel (a misinterpretation of his Avestean epithet *zairi pâshna*, golden-heeled, the Zend *zairi* being mistaken for the Persian *zarah* 𐬯𐬀, sea); his head would rise to the sun and rub the sky; he could swallow up twelve men at once. *Keresâspa* fought him for nine days and nine nights together; he drew him at last from the bottom of the sea and smashed his head with his club: when he fell on the ground, many countries were spoiled by his fall (*Spiegel, Die traditionelle Literatur der Parsen*, p. 339, and *West, Pahlavi Texts*, II, pp. 369 seq.).

In the Vedic mythology the *Gandharva* is the keeper of *Soma*, and is described now as a god, now as a fiend, according as he is a heavenly *Soma*-priest or a jealous possessor who grudges it to man. What was the original form of the myth in *Mazdeism* is not clear. In the *Shâh Nâmah* he appears as the minister of *Azi Dahâka*. Cf. *Yt. XV*, 27 seq., and *Ormazd et Ahriman*, pp. 99, note 5; 215, note 1.

XI.

40. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita . . .

41. 'To her did the Turanian murderer, Frangrasyan¹, offer up a sacrifice in his cave under the earth², with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs.

42. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may seize hold of that Glory³, that is waving in the middle of the sea Vouru-Kasha³ and

¹ Frangrasyan (Afrâsyâb) was king of Tûrân for two hundred years. The perpetual struggle between Irân and Tûrân, which lasts to this day, was represented in the legend by the deadly and endless wars between Afrâsyâb and the Iranian kings from Minokîhr down to Kai Khosrav (Kavi Husravah). The chief cause of the feud was the murder of Syâvakhsh (Syâvarshâna) by Afrâsyâb; Syâvakhsh, son of Kai Kaus (Kava Usa), having been exiled by his father, at the instigation of his mother-in-law, took refuge with Afrâsyâb, who received him with honour, and gave him his daughter in marriage: but the fortune of Syâvakhsh raised the jealousy of Afrâsyâb's brother, Karsîvaz (Keresavazda), who by means of calumnious accusations extorted from Afrâsyâb an order for putting him to death (see Yt. XIX, 77). Syâvakhsh was revenged by his son, Kai Khosrav, the grandson of Afrâsyâb (Yt. IX, 22).

² Hanakanê: Firdausi speaks of a cave on the top of a mountain, near Barda (on the frontier of Adarbaigân), where Afrâsyâb, when defeated, took refuge, and was discovered by Kai Khosrav; that cave was called 'the cave of Afrâsyâb' (hang i Afrâsiâb; Shâh Nâmah, IV, 196). In an older form of the legend, that cave was a palace built under-ground, with walls of iron and a hundred columns: its height was a thousand times a man's size (Aogemaidê, § 61; cf. Bund. XII, 20: see Études Iraniennes, II, 225, Le Hang d'Afrâsyâb).

³ Yt. XIX, 56 seq.

that belongs to the Aryan people, to those born and to those not yet born, and to the holy Zarathustra."

43. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita did not grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XII.

44. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

45. 'To her did the great, most wise Kavi Usa¹ offer up a sacrifice from Mount Erezifya², with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs.

46. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me, this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may become the sovereign lord of all countries, of the Daêvas and men, of the Yâtus and Pairikas, of the oppressors, the blind and the deaf."

47. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XIII.

48. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

49. 'To her did the gallant Husravah³, he who

¹ Kavi Usa (Kai Kaus), the son of Kavi Kavâta (Kai Kobâd) and the father of Syâvakhsh (see p. 64, note 1), was the second king of the Kayanian dynasty.

² Mount Erezifya has been supposed to be the same as the Sariphi Montes in Ptolemaeus, which stretch between Margiana and Ariana (Burnouf, *Commentaire sur le Yasna*, p. 436).

³ Kai Khosrav; cf. p. 64, notes 1 and 2.

united the Aryan nations into one kingdom ¹, offer up a sacrifice behind the *Kaêzasta* lake ², the deep lake, of salt waters ³, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs.

50. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may become the sovereign lord of all countries, of Daêvas and men, of the Yâtus and Pairikas, of the oppressors, the blind and the deaf; and that I may have the lead in front of all the teams ⁴ and that he may not pass through ⁵ the forest ⁶, he, the murderer ⁷, who now is fiercely ⁸ striving against me ⁹ on horseback ¹⁰."

51. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XIV.

52. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

53. 'To her did the valiant warrior Tusa ¹¹ offer

¹ Doubtful.

² A lake in Adarbaigân, with salt water: fish cannot live in it (Bundahis XXII, 2). It is the same as Lake Urumiah. Its name is miswritten in Firdausi (Khangast for *Kêgast*, *خنجست* for *خنجست*).

³ Doubtful; see *Études Iraniennes*, II, uruyâpa, p. 179.

⁴ In pursuing his adversary.

⁵ Doubtful (cf. Yt. XV, 32).

⁶ The White Forest (ibid.).

⁷ Aurvasâra (ibid.).

⁸ Doubtful.

⁹ Trying to flee and escape.

¹⁰ Possibly, 'vieing in horses' (for the swiftness of the race): cf. Yt. XIX, 77.

¹¹ Tusa, in the *Shâh Nâmah* Tus; one of the most celebrated Pahlavans of Kai Khosrav; he was the son of king Naotara (Nôdar).

worship on the back of his horse¹, begging swift-ness for his teams, health for his own body, and that he might watch with full success² those who hated him, smite down his foes, and destroy at one stroke his adversaries, his enemies, and those who hated him³.

54. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may overcome the gallant sons of Vaêsaka⁴, by the castle Khshathrô-saoka, that stands high up on the lofty, holy Kangha⁵; that I may smite of the Turanian people their fifties and their hundreds, their hundreds and their thousands, their thousands and their tens of thousands, their tens of thousands and their myriads of myriads."

55. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon⁶, as he was offering libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

¹ He offers not a full sacrifice, being on horseback.

² Not to be taken by surprise.

³ Cf. Yt. X, 11, 94, 114.

⁴ Vaêsaka was the head of the Vîsah family, whose foremost member was Pîrân Vîsah, the clever and upright minister of Afrâsyâb, the Turanian Nestor; but his counsels were despised for the common ruin, and himself perished with all his sons in the war against Irân.

⁵ Kangha was a town founded by Syâvarshâna, during his exile, in a part of the land of Khvârizm, which is described as an earthly paradise. This city was built on the top of a high mountain (*Antare-Kangha*, Yt. XIX, 4). The Khshathrô-saoka castle is called in the *Shâh Nâmah* Kang dez, 'the fortress of Kangha;' and, possibly, Khshathrô-saoka is a mere epithet of dvarem, 'the castle of kingly welfare.'

⁶ According to the *Shâh Nâmah*, Kang dez was stormed by Kai Khosrav himself.

XV.

56. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

57. 'To her did the gallant sons of Vaêsaka offer up a sacrifice in the castle Khshathrô-saoka, that stands high up on the lofty, holy Kangha, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs.

58. 'They begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant us this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that we may overcome the valiant warrior Tusa, and that we may smite of the Aryan people their fifties and their hundreds, their hundreds and their thousands, their thousands and their tens of thousands, their tens of thousands and their myriads of myriads¹."

59. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita did not grant them that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XVI.

60. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

61. 'The old² Vafra Navâza worshipped her, when the strong fiend-smiter, Thraêtaona, flung him up in the air in the shape of a bird, of a vulture³.

¹ Cf. §§ 53-54.

² Doubtful (*pourvô*); perhaps 'the man of the primitive faith' (the *paoiryô-/kaêsha*; cf. Yt. XIII, 0, note): the sacrifice he offers is quite a Zoroastrian one (cf. §§ 17, 104, and note 2 to the latter).

³ An allusion is made here to a myth, belonging to the Thraêtaona cyclus, of which no other trace is found in the Avesta (except in Yt. XXIII, 4). It referred most likely to the time when

62. 'He went on flying, for three days and three nights, towards his own house; but he could not, he could not turn down. At the end of the third night, when the beneficent dawn came dawning up, then he prayed unto Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, saying :

63. "Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! do thou quickly hasten helpfully and bring me assistance at once. I will offer thee a thousand libations, cleanly prepared and well strained, along with Haomas and meat, by the brink of the river Rangha, if I reach alive the earth made by Ahura and my own house."

64. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita hastened unto him in the shape of a maid, fair of body, most strong, tall-formed, high-girded, pure, nobly born of a glorious race, wearing shoes up to the ankle, wearing a golden . . . ¹, and radiant ².

65. 'She seized him by the arm : quickly was it done, nor was it long till, speeding, he arrived at the earth made by Mazda and at his own house, safe, unhurt, unwounded, just as he was before.

[66. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, entreating that she would grant him that boon³.]

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice . . .

Thraêtaona, on his march to Bawri, the capital of Azi (cf. § 29), arrived at the Tigris (the Rangha); an angel then came and taught him magic to enable him to baffle the sortileges of Azi (Shâh Nâmah). We have in this passage an instance of his talents as a wizard, and one which helps us to understand why Thraêtaona is considered as the inventor of magic, and his name is invoked in spells and incantations (Hamzah Ispahanensis, p. 101; Anquetil, II, pp. 135 seq.). Cf. Yt. XIV, 40 and note.

¹ Urvikhšna, a word of doubtful meaning.

² Cf. Yt. V, 78, 126.

³ This clause is no doubt spurious here.

XVII.

67. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra ! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

68. 'To her did *Gâmâspa*¹ offer up a sacrifice, with a hundred horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs, when he saw the army of the wicked, of the worshippers of the Daêvas, coming from afar in battle array.

69. 'He asked of her a boon, saying : "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita ! that I may be as constantly victorious as any one of all the Aryans²."

70. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XVIII.

71. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra ! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

72. 'To her did Ashavazdah, the son of Pouru-

¹ *Gâmâspa*, the prime minister of *Vistâspa* (*Kai Gûstâsp*), appears here in the character of a warrior, though generally he is described as a sage and a prophet (*Yasna XLIX [XLVIII]*, 9; *LI [L]*, 8; *Zardûst Nâmah*; yet cf. *Yt. XXIII*, 2). The *Shâh Nâmah* has an episode which recalls this one, although very different in its spirit, and more in accordance with the general character of *Gâmâspa*. At the moment when the two armies meet together, *Gûstâsp* asks *Gâmâsp* to reveal to him the issue of the encounter: *Gâmâsp* obeys reluctantly, as the issue is to be fatal to the Iranians. *Gâmâsp* belonged to the *Hvôva* family.

² Or, 'as all the rest of the Aryans together.'

dhâkhsti¹, and Ashavazdah and Thrîta, the sons of Sâyuzdri², offer up a sacrifice, with a hundred horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs, by Apâm Napât, the tall lord, the lord of the females, the bright and swift-horsed³.

73. 'They begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant us this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that we may overcome the assemblers of the Turanian Dânus⁴, Kara Asabana⁵, and Vara Asabana, and the most mighty Dûraêkaêta, in the battles of this world⁶."

74. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted them that boon, as they were offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant them that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XIX.

75. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

76. 'Vistauru, the son of Naotara⁷, worshipped

¹ Cf. Yt. XIII, 112. Ashavazdah, the son of Pourudhâkhsti, is one of the immortals who will come forth to help Saoshyant in the final struggle (Bundahis XXIX, 6; Yt. XIX, 95).

² Cf. Yt. XIII, 113.

³ Cf. above, p. 6, note 1.

⁴ A Turanian tribe, Yt. XIII, 37-38.

⁵ Asabana is very likely an epithet; possibly, 'who kills with a stone' (asan-ban); the sling was, as it seems, the favourite weapon of the Dânus (Yt. XIII, 38).

⁶ This section is the only fragment left of the legend of Ashavazdah, which must have been an important one, since Ashavazdah is one of the immortals (Yt. XIX, 95).

⁷ Cf. Yt. XIII, 102. Vistauru, being the son of Naotara, is the brother of Tusa, which identifies him with the Gustahm (گستهم) in the Shâh Nâmah: Nôdar had two sons, Tus and Gustahm.

her by the brink of the river Vîtanghuhaiti¹, with well-spoken words, speaking thus :

77. "This is true, this is truly spoken, that I have smitten as many of the worshippers of the Daêvas as the hairs I bear on my head. Do thou then, O Ardvi Sûra Anâhita ! leave me a dry passage, to pass over the good Vîtanghuhaiti."

78. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita hastened unto him in the shape of a maid, fair of body, most strong, tall-formed, high-girded, pure, nobly born of a glorious race, wearing shoes up to the ankle, with all sorts of ornaments and radiant². . . A part of the waters she made stand still, a part of the waters she made flow forward, and she left him a dry passage to pass over the good Vîtanghuhaiti³.

[79. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon⁴.]

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XX.

80. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra ! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

81. 'To her did Yôista, one of the Fryanas⁵,

¹ A river not mentioned elsewhere.

² Cf. §§ 64, 126.

³ Firdausi has no mention of this episode.

⁴ Spurious.

⁵ This legend is fully told in the Pahlavi tale of Gôsti Fryân (edited and translated by West) : a sorcerer, named Akht, comes with an immense army to the city of the enigma-expounders, threatening to make it a beaten track for elephants, if his enigmas are not solved. A Mazdayasnian, named Gôsti Fryân, guesses the

offer up a sacrifice with a hundred horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs on the Pədvaêpa¹ of the Rangha.

82. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may overcome the evil-doing Akhtya, the offspring of darkness, and that I may answer the ninety-nine hard riddles that he asks me maliciously, the evil-doing Akhtya, the offspring of darkness."

'83. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XXI.

84. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

85. 'Whom Ahura Mazda the merciful ordered thus, saying: "Come, O Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, come from those stars² down to the earth made by Ahura,

thirty-three riddles proposed by Akht; then, in his turn, he proposes him three riddles which the sorcerer is unable to guess, and, in the end, he destroys him by the strength of a Nīrang. Cf. Yt. XIII, 120. This tale, which belongs to the same widespread cycle as the myth of Oedipus and the Germanic legend of the Wartburg battle, is found in the Zarathustra legend too (Vendîdâd XIX, 4).

¹ Perhaps an affluent of the Rangha (cf. Yt. XIII, 19, 19; XV, 27).

² Between the earth and the region of infinite light there are three intermediate regions, the star region, the moon region, and the sun region. The star region is the nearest to the earth, and the sun region is the remotest from it. Ardvi Sûra has her seat in the star region (Yasna LXV [LXIV], 1; Phl. tr.); cf. Yt. V, 132.

that the great lords may worship thee, the masters of the countries, and their sons.

86. "The men of strength¹ will beg of thee swift horses and supremacy of Glory.

"The Âthravans who read² and the pupils of the Âthravans will beg of thee knowledge and prosperity, the Victory made by Ahura, and the crushing Ascendant.

87. "The maids of barren womb³, longing for a lord³, will beg of thee a strong husband ;

"Women, on the point of bringing forth, will beg of thee a good delivery.

"All this wilt thou grant unto them, as it lies in thy power, O Ardvi Sûra Anâhita !"

88. 'Then Ardvi Sûra Anâhita came forth, O Zarathustra! down from those stars to the earth made by Mazda ; and Ardvi Sûra Anâhita spake thus :

89. "O pure, holy Zarathustra! Ahura Mazda has established thee as the master of the material world: Ahura Mazda has established me to keep the whole of the holy creation.

"Through my brightness and glory flocks and herds and two-legged men go on, upon the earth: I, forsooth, keep all good things, made by Mazda, the offspring of the holy principle, just as a shepherd keeps his flock."

90. 'Zarathustra asked Ardvi Sûra Anâhita: "O Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! With what manner of sacrifice shall I worship thee? With what manner of sacrifice shall I worship and forward thee? So that Mazda may make thee run down (to the earth), that

¹ The warriors.

² To teach.

³ Doubtful.

he may not make thee run up into the heavens, above the sun¹; and that the Serpent² may not injure thee with³, with⁴, with⁵, and poisons⁶."

91. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita answered: "O pure, holy Spitama! this is the sacrifice wherewith thou shalt worship me, this is the sacrifice wherewith thou shalt worship and forward me, from the time when the sun is rising to the time when the sun is setting.

"Of this libation of mine thou shalt drink, thou who art an Âthrvan, who hast asked and learnt the revealed law, who art wise, clever, and the Word incarnate.

92. "Of this libation of mine let no foe drink, no man fever-sick, no liar, no coward, no jealous one, no woman, no faithful one who does not sing the Gâthas, no leper to be confined⁷.

93. "I do not accept those libations that are drunk in my honour by the blind, by the deaf, by the wicked, by the destroyers, by the niggards, by the⁸, nor any of those stamped with those characters which have no strength for the holy Word⁹.

¹ When the beds of the rivers are dry, the cause is that Ardvi Sûra sends up her waters to the higher heavens (to the sun region) instead of sending them down to the earth (cf. p. 73, note 2).

² The serpent, Azi, is here Azi in his original naturalistic character, the storm-fiend (cf. Vend. Introd. IV, 38 and this Yast, § 29, note). The uncleanness and unhealthiness of the rivers are ascribed to his poison.

³ Arethna, an ἀπαξ λεγόμενον.

⁴ Vawzaka, idem.

⁵ Varenva, idem.

⁶ Varenva poisons.

⁷ Cf. Vend. II, 29.

⁸ ? Rangham.

⁹ Which incapacitate one for religious works.

“Let no one drink of these my libations who is hump-backed or bulged forward; no fiend with decayed teeth¹.”

94. ‘Then Zarathustra asked Ardvi Sûra Anâhita: “O Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! What becomes of those libations which the wicked worshippers of the Daêvas bring unto thee after the sun has set²?”’

95. ‘Ardvi Sûra Anâhita answered: “O pure, holy Spitama Zarathustra! howling, clapping, hopping, and shouting³, six hundred and a thousand Daêvas, who ought not to receive that sacrifice⁴, receive those libations⁵ that men bring unto me after [the sun has set]⁶.”’

96. ‘I will worship the height Hukairya, of the deep precipices⁷, made of gold, wherefrom this mine Ardvi Sûra Anâhita leaps, from a hundred times the height of a man⁸, while she is possessed of as much Glory as the whole of the waters that run along the earth, and she runs powerfully⁹.’

‘For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice’

XXII.

97. ‘Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita’

98. ‘Before whom the worshippers of Mazda

¹ Cf. Vend. II, 29.

² Cf. Vend. VII, 79 and note 2; cf. above, § 91.

³ For joy. The translations of those several words are not certain.

⁴ Doubtful.

⁵ Perhaps, those cups (*yamau*).

⁶ Filled up from § 94.

⁷ The text here has *vîspô-vahmem*, ‘worthy of all prayer;’ the reading *vîspô-vaêmem* from Yt. XII, 24 seems to be better.

⁸ Cf. §§ 102, 121.

⁹ Cf. §§ 4, 102, 121.

stand with baresma in their hands : the Hvôvas did worship her, the Naotaras did worship her¹; the Hvôvas asked for riches, the Naotaras asked for swift horses. Quickly was Hvôva blessed with riches and full prosperity ; quickly became Vîstâspa, the Naotaride, the lord of the swiftest horses in these countries².

99. ['Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted them that boon, as they were offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant them that boon³.]

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XXIII.

100. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

101. 'Who has a thousand cells and a thousand channels : the extent of each of those cells, of each of those channels, is as much as a man can ride in forty days, riding on a good horse⁴. In each channel there stands a palace, well-founded, shining with a hundred windows, with a thousand columns, well-built, with ten thousand balconies, and mighty.

102. 'In each of those palaces there lies a well-laid, well-scented bed, covered with pillows, and

¹ The Hvôva or Hvôgva family plays as great a part in the religious legend, as the Naotara family in the heroic one. Two of the Hvôvas, Frashaostra and Gâmâspa, were among the first disciples of Zarathustra and the prophet married Frashaostra's daughter, Hvôgvi (cf. Yt. XIII, 139). For the Naotaras, see above, §§ 53, 76. According to the Bundahis, Vîstâspa did not belong to the Naotara family (XXXI, 28): perhaps he was considered a Naotaride on account of his wife Hutaosa, who was one (Yt. XV, 35).

² His very name means 'He who has many horses.'

³ Spurious.

⁴ Cf. § 4.

Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, O Zarathustra! runs down there from a thousand times the height of a man, and she is possessed of as much Glory as the whole of the waters that run along the earth, and she runs powerfully¹.

XXIV.

103. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

104. 'Unto her did the holy Zarathustra offer up a sacrifice in the Airyana Vaêgah, by the good river Dâitya; with the Haoma and meat, with the baresma, with the wisdom of the tongue, with the holy spells, with the speech, with the deeds, with the libations, and with the rightly-spoken words².

105. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may bring the son of Aurvat-aspa³, the valiant Kavi Vîstâspa, to think according to the law, to speak according to the law, to do according to the law⁴."

106. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

¹ Cf. § 96.

² Cf. § 17. It is to be noticed that only Ahura and Zarathustra (and perhaps Vafra Navâza; see p. 68, note 2) offer the pure Zoroastrian sacrifice.

³ Called Lôhrâsp in Parsi tradition.

⁴ Cf. § 18. The conversion of Vîstâspa by Zarathustra is the turning-point in the earthly history of Mazdeism, as the conversion of Zarathustra by Ahura himself is in its heavenly history. Cf. Yt. XXIV and IX, 26.

XXV.

107. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita . . .

108. 'Unto her did the tall¹ Kavi Vîstâspa² offer up a sacrifice behind Lake Frazdânava³, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs.

109. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may overcome Tâthravant, of the bad law, and Peshana, the worshipper of the Daêvas, and the wicked Arega/-aspa⁴, in the battles of this world!"

110. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice . . .

¹ Berezaidhi, translated buland (Yasna LVII, 11 [LVI, 5, 2]).

² See Yt. XIII, 99; V, 98, 105.

³ A lake in Seistan (Bundahis XXII, 5); from that lake will rise Hôshêdar Bâmî (Ukshya/-ereta), the first of the three sons of Zarathustra, not yet born (Bahman Yast III, 13; cf. Yt. XIII, 98).

⁴ Of these three, Arega/-aspa alone is known to Firdausi; he is the celebrated Argâsp, who waged a deadly war against Gûstâsp to suppress the new religion: he stormed Balkh, slaughtered Lôhrâsp and Zartûst (Zarathustra), and was at last defeated and killed by Gûstâsp's son, Isfendyâr. He is the Afrâsyâb of the Zoroastrian period. In the Avesta he is not called a Turanian (Tura), but a *Hvyaona*; see Yt. IX, 30.

XXVI.

111. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

112. 'Unto her did Zairi-vairi¹, who fought on horseback, offer up a sacrifice behind the river Dâitya², with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs.

113. 'He begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant me this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that I may overcome Peshô-Kangha the corpse-burier³, Humâyaka⁴ the worshipper of the Daêvas, and the wicked Aregaŧ-aspa⁵, in the battles of this world.

114. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita granted him that boon⁶, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XXVII.

115. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

116. 'Unto her did Aregaŧ-aspa and Vandaremaini⁷

¹ Zarîr in Firdausi, the brother of Vistâspa; cf. Yt. V, 117; XIII, 101.

² The Araxes (Vendîdâd I, 3).

³ Doubtful (cf. Vend. III, 36 seq.).

⁴ This is perhaps an epithet to Peshô-Kangha, 'the most malicious.'

⁵ See p. 79, note 4.

⁶ If we may trust the Shâh Nâmah, she did not grant her favour to the last, as Zarîr was killed by one of the generals of Argâsp, Bîdirafsh.

⁷ A brother of Argâsp's: his name is slightly altered in Firdausi (Andarîmân miswritten for Vandarîmân, *وندريمان* for *اندريمان*; see *Études Iraniennes*, p. 228).

offer up a sacrifice by the sea Vouru-Kasha, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs.

117. 'They¹ begged of her a boon, saying: "Grant us this, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! that we may conquer the valiant Kavi Vîstâspa and Zairivairi who fights on horseback, and that we may smite of the Aryan people their fifties and their hundreds, their hundreds and their thousands, their thousands and their tens of thousands, their tens of thousands and their myriads of myriads."

118. 'Ardvi Sûra Anâhita did not grant them² that favour, though they were offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she should grant them that favour.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XXVIII.

119. 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

120. 'For whom Ahura Mazda has made four horses—the wind, the rain, the cloud, and the sleet—and thus ever³ upon the earth it is raining, snowing, hailing, and sleeting; and whose armies are so many and numbered by nine-hundreds and thousands.

121. 'I will worship the height Hukairya, of the

¹ The text has the singular here and in the rest of the sentence: the names of the two brothers form a sort of singular *dvandva*; cf. *Franghrasyanem Keresavazdem* (Yt. XIX, 77); *Ashavazdanghō Thrithâhê* (Yt. XIII, 113; and same Yast, 115), and in the present passage *Vîstâspô Zairivairis* (see *Études Iraniennes*, II, 229).

² Both were killed by *Isfendyâr* (*Shâh Nâmah*).

³ *Mîsti* translated *hamêsak*, *sadâ* (Yt. VII, 4).

deep precipices, made of gold, wherefrom this mine Ardvi Sûra Anâhita leaps, from a hundred times the height of a man, while she is possessed of as much Glory as the whole of the waters that run along the earth, and she runs powerfully¹.

‘For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XXIX.

122. ‘Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

123. ‘She stands, the good Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, wearing a golden mantle², waiting for a man who shall offer her libations and prayers, and thinking thus in her heart :

124. “Who will praise me? Who will offer me a sacrifice, with libations cleanly prepared and well-strained, together with the Haoma and meat? To whom shall I cleave, who cleaves unto me, and thinks with me, and bestows gifts upon me, and is of good will unto me³?”

‘For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

XXX.

125. ‘Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

126. ‘Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, who stands carried forth in the shape of a maid, fair of body, most strong, tall-formed, high-girded, pure, nobly born of

¹ § 121=§§ 96, 102.

² Paitidâna, a mantle, a tunic (Vend. XIV, 9 [28]).

³ See §§ 8, 11.

a glorious race¹, wearing along her² a mantle fully embroidered with gold;

127. 'Ever holding the baresma in her hand, according to the rules, she wears square golden earrings on her ears bored³, and a golden necklace around her beautiful neck, she, the nobly born Ardvi Sûra Anâhita; and she girded her waist tightly, so that her breasts may be well-shaped, that they may be tightly pressed⁴.

128. 'Upon her head Ardvi Sûra Anâhita bound a golden crown, with a hundred stars⁵, with eight rays, a fine⁶, a well-made crown, in the shape of a⁷, with fillets streaming down.

129. 'She is clothed with garments of beaver⁸, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita; with the skin of thirty beavers of those that bear four young ones, that are the finest kind of beavers; for the skin of the beaver that lives in water is the finest-coloured of all skins, and when worked at the right time it shines to the eye with full sheen of silver and gold.

130. 'Here, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! I beg of thee this favour: that I, fully blessed, may conquer large kingdoms, rich in horses⁹, with high tributes, with snorting horses, sounding chariots, flashing swords, rich in aliments, with stores of food, with well-scented beds¹⁰; that I may have

¹ Cf. §§ 64, 78.

² Zaosa; cf. § 7, note 2.

³ Doubtful (sispemna, from sif, سفتن).

⁴ Doubtful.

⁵ Gems.

⁶ ? Anupôithwaitîm.

⁷ ? Ratha; the usual meaning of ratha is 'a chariot'; perhaps the round shape of the chest of a chariot is meant.

⁸ Possibly otter, Vend. XIV.

⁹ Doubtful.

¹⁰ Cf. Yt. XVII, 7.

at my wish the fulness of the good things of life and whatever makes a kingdom thrive¹.

131. 'Here, O good, most beneficent Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! I beg of thee two gallant companions, one two-legged and one four-legged²: one two-legged, who is swift, quickly rushing, and clever in turning a chariot round in battle; and one four-legged, who can quickly turn towards either wing of the host with a wide front, towards the right wing or the left, towards the left wing or the right.

132. 'Through the strength of this sacrifice, of this invocation, O Ardvi Sûra Anâhita! come down from those stars³, towards the earth made by Ahura, towards the sacrificing priest, towards the full boiling [milk⁴]; come to help him who is offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that thou wouldst grant him thy favours; that all those gallant warriors may be strong, like king Vîstâspa.

'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

133. 'Yathâ ahû vairyo: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

'I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of the holy water-spring Anâhita.

'Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

'[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones!'

¹ The translation of the last clause is doubtful.

² A good horse and a good driver.

³ Cf. §§ 85, 88. ⁴ Aspendiârji ad Vend. XIX, 40 [133].

VI. KHÔRSHÊD YAST.

(YAST TO THE SUN.)

This Yast is recited at any time, but particularly on the days consecrated to the sun and to Khshathra-Vairyâ (Shahrîvar), Mithra (Mihir), Asman (Âsmân), and Anaghra *raoġau* (Anîrân¹): the last three, Mithra, Asman (the Heaven), Anaghra (the infinite Light), have a natural connection with the sun, but its connection with Khshathra-Vairyâ is not so clear.

Of this Yast we have a Pahlavi (East India Office, XII), a Persian (ibid. XXIV), and a Sanskrit translation (Fonds Burnouf V; all three edited in *Études Iraniennes*, II).

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness²

Unto the undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun³;

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness²

1. We sacrifice unto the undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun.

When the light of the sun waxes warmer⁴, when the brightness of the sun waxes warmer, then up

¹ Or the 11th, 16th, 27th, and 30th days of the month (Anquetil, II, 184).

² As above, Yt. I, o.

³ Sirôzah I, 11.

⁴ 'That is to say, rises up' (Phl. tr.).

stand the heavenly Yazatas, by hundreds and thousands: they gather together its Glory, they make its Glory pass down, they pour its Glory upon the earth made by Ahura, for the increase of the world of holiness, for the increase of the creatures of holiness¹, for the increase of the undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun.

2. And when the sun rises up, then the earth, made by Ahura, becomes clean²; the running waters become clean, the waters of the wells become clean, the waters of the sea become clean, the standing waters become clean; all the holy creatures, the creatures of the Good Spirit, become clean.

3. Should not the sun rise up, then the Daêvas would destroy all the things that are in the seven Karshvares, nor would the heavenly Yazatas find any way of withstanding or repelling them in the material world.

4. He who offers up a sacrifice unto the undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun—to withstand darkness, to withstand the Daêvas born of darkness, to withstand the robbers and bandits, to withstand the Yâtus and Pairikas, to withstand death that creeps in unseen—offers it up to Ahura Mazda, offers it up to the Amesha-Spentas, offers it up to his own soul³. He rejoices all the heavenly and worldly Yazatas, who offers up a sacrifice unto the undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun.

5. I will sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide

¹ Literally 'of the body of holiness,' that is to say, of the bodily creatures that incorporate holiness.

² 'From the uncleanness that the Daêvas mix with the earth during the night' (Phl. tr.).

³ As he benefits them and himself thereby.

pastures, who has a thousand ears, ten thousand eyes.

I will sacrifice unto the club of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, well struck down¹ upon the skulls of the Daêvas.

I will sacrifice unto that friendship, the best of all friendships, that reigns between the moon and the sun².

6. For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard, namely, unto the undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun. Unto the undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun we offer up the libations, the Haoma and meat, the baresma, the wisdom of the tongue, the holy spells, the speech, the deeds, the libations, and the rightily-spoken words³.

Yêzhê hâtâm: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda

7. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and the invocation, and the strength and vigour of the undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun.

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

Give unto that man brightness and glory, give him health of body, . . . give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

¹ Hunivikhtem: suniyuktam (Sansk. tr.); خوب نهاده (Pers. tr.).

² As they succeed one another in regular order.

³ Cf. Yt. III, 18.

VII. MĀH YAST.

This Yast to the Moon is recited on the day of the Moon, and on those of Bahman, Gôš, and Râm¹ (Anquetil, II, 185). Bahman and Gôš are so far connected with the Moon that all three are *gaoñithra*: 'Bahman², the Moon, and Gôš³, all three, are having in them the seed of the bull; Bahman can neither be seen nor seized with the hand; the Moon proceeded from Bahman⁴ and can be seen, but cannot be seized with the hand; Gôš proceeded from the Moon⁵ and can both be seen and seized with the hand⁶.' Râm is referred to here as being *ñvâstra*, 'lord of good pastures⁷'.

Of this Yast we have translations in Pahlavi, Persian, and Sanskrit (edited in *Études Iraniennes*, II).

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness

Unto the Moon that keeps in it the seed of the

¹ The 12th, 2nd, 14th, and 21st days of the month.

² The Amshaspand Bahman is entrusted with the care of cattle (Vend. XIX, 20, note 8).

³ The Genius of Cattle; see Yt. IX.

⁴ Bahman is 'good thought, good mind,' Vohu-Manô; in the Vedas the moon is said to have been made out of the mind (*manas*) of Purusa. For an explanation of that old mystical myth, see Ormazd et Ahriman, p. 74, note 3.

⁵ See Vend. XXI, 9 [51], note 4.

⁶ Pahlavi commentary to this Yast, I.

⁷ Vend. Introd. IV, 16, and *Études Iraniennes*, II, 187 seq.

Bull; unto the only-created Bull and unto the Bull¹ of many species;

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

1. Hail to Ahura Mazda! Hail to the Amesha-Spentas! Hail to the Moon that keeps in it the seed of the Bull²! Hail to thee when we look at thee! Hail to thee when thou lookest at us³!

2. How does the moon wax? How does the moon wane?

For fifteen days does the moon wax⁴; for fifteen days does the moon wane. As long as her waxing, so long is the waning⁵; as long as her waning, so long is the waxing.

'Who is there but thee⁶ who makes the moon wax and wane⁷?'

¹ Sirôzah I, 12.

² See Vend. XXI, 1, text and note.

³ When the moon allows itself to be perceived.

⁴ The Pahlavi translation has the following interesting details: 'For fifteen days they take good deeds from the earthly creatures and the rewards for virtue from the heavens; for fifteen days they make the rewards pass to the earth and the good deeds pass to the heavens.' The moon is thus a sort of moral clearing-house between earth and heaven.

⁵ According to the Parsis this waning does not refer to the moon, but to the constellations that help it in the struggle against the planets, which are supposed to belong to the Ahrimanic world (see Ormazd et Ahriman, §§ 223-226): 'while it waxes—namely, the moon—they wane,—namely, those that are opposed to the planets, to the bad stars; for instance, Haftôiring, Vanand, Tistar, Satvês; . . . while it wanes—namely, the moon—they wax, that is to say, they are strong for doing good.' Thus the moon and the stars relieve each other in the battle against Ahriman.

⁶ Ahura.

⁷ Quoted from Yasna XLIV [XLIII], 3.

3. We sacrifice unto the Moon that keeps in it the seed of the Bull, the holy and master of holiness.

Here I look at the moon, here I perceive the moon; here I look at the light of the moon, here I perceive the light of the moon. The Amesha-Spentas stand up¹, holding its glory; the Amesha-Spentas stand up, pouring its glory upon the earth, made by Mazda².

4. And when the light of the moon waxes warmer, golden-hued plants grow on³ from the earth during the spring⁴.

We sacrifice unto the new moons, the full moons, and the Vîshaptathas⁵.

We sacrifice unto the new moon, the holy and master of holiness;

We sacrifice unto the full moon, the holy and master of holiness;

We sacrifice unto the Vîshaptatha, the holy and master of holiness.

¹ As soon as the moon appears.

² Cf. Yt. VI, 2.

³ Misti, meaning sadâ, همیشه; cf. mi-sâki.

⁴ Zaremaêm, meaning vasantamâse, بهار بزمن; it has the same meaning in Vend. XVIII, 9 [23]; cf. Yt. XXII, 18.

⁵ New moon and full moon are not used here in the English meaning: the month was divided into six parts, of five days each (the Norse fimt or five days' week; see Vigfusson, Icelandic Dictionary, s. v.): the first five days (pankâk fartûm) formed the new moon or antare-maungha, literally 'the moon within; the next five days (pankâk datîgar) formed the perenô-maungha, literally 'the moon full,' which in fact partly answered to our first quarter; the next five days (pankâk sitîgar), belonging to the full moon, were called the Vîshaptatha; no mention is made of the last three pankâk, forming the second half of the month. It may be they were not mentioned, as belonging to the waning period, when the powers of the moon are suffering an eclipse. Cf. Neriosengh to Yasna I, (23.)

5. I will sacrifice unto the Moon, that keeps in it the seed of the Bull, the liberal, bright, glorious, water-giving¹, warmth-giving, wisdom-giving², wealth-giving³, riches-giving, thoughtfulness-giving⁴, weal-giving, freshness-giving⁵, prosperity-giving⁶, the liberal, the healing.

6. For its brightness and glory, I will offer unto it a sacrifice worth being heard, namely, unto the Moon that keeps in it the seed of the Bull.

Unto the Moon that keeps in it the seed of the Bull, we offer up the libations, the Haoma and meat, the baresma, the wisdom of the tongue, the holy spells, the speech, the deeds, the libations, and the rightly-spoken words.

Yēnhê hâtām : All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda

7. Yathâ ahû vairyo : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of the Moon, that keeps in it the seed of the Bull, and of the only-created Bull, and of the Bull of many species.

Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good.

Give unto that man brightness and glory, give him health of body, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

¹ Or possessing: giving may be replaced by possessing in this word as in the following.

² Varekhanghantem: dānāk (Phl.); gñānitaram (Sansk.).

³ Khstāvantem: lakshmiwantam (Sansk.).

⁴ Yaokhstivantem, 'pondering on what good is to be done' (viśāryavantam kāryanyāyānām; اندیشه نیک دارنده کار و عدل).

⁵ Zairimyāvantem: haritavarnavantam, kila pṛithivī(m) sārdratarām karoti (Sansk.).

⁶ Vohvāvantem: uttamasamṛiddhimantam (Sansk.).

VIII. TĪR YAST.

Tistrya is the leader of the stars against the planets, as stars and planets belong, respectively, to the worlds of Ahura Mazda and Angra Mainyu (Vend. Introd. IV, 36; Bund. II, 5 seq.).

This Yast is a description of the production of the rain through the agency of the star Tistrya. It has to struggle against the Daêva of Drought, Apaosha, is first overcome and conquers at last. This seems to be a refacimento of the old storm myths, which have been in so far renewed as the role of the hero in the original myth has been transferred to a star. It is to be noticed, however, that Apaosha is not described as a planet.

Tistrya is Sirius¹. It presides over the first month of summer (21 June—21 July). This Yast appears thus to have been written in a part of Iran where the dog-days must have fallen in July, and the rainy season began in the last days of July, unless the place of Tistrya in the calendar has been changed at some later period.

This Yast is recited on the days of Tistrya, Haurvatât (as the Genius of Waters), Farvardîn (as the Fravashis are his allies in the struggle; § 34), and Bâd (the wind; § 32).

The struggle between Tistrya and Apaosha is described in the Bundahis (VII), but it has there a cosmological character: it has not for its object the annual and regular return of the rains after the dog-days, but the production of the seas and lakes in the first ages of the world.

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness

Unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, and unto the powerful Satavaêsa, made by Mazda, who pushes waters forward²,

¹ *Ἔνα δ' ἀστὴρα πρὸ πάντων, οἷον φύλακα καὶ προόπτην ἐγκατέστησε, τὸν Σείριον* (Plutarchus, de Iside et Osiride, § 47; cf. infra, § 48).

² Sîrôzah I, 13.

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I.

1. Ahura Mazda spake unto Spitama Zarathustra, saying: 'We worship the lordship and mastership [of Tistrya], whereby he protects¹ the Moon, the dwelling, the food, when my glorious stars come along and impart their gifts² to men. I will sacrifice unto the star Tistrya, that gives the fields their share [of waters].

2. 'We offer up libations unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, that gives happy dwelling and good dwelling; the white, shining, seen afar, and piercing; the health-bringing, loud-snorting³, and high, piercing from afar with its shining, undefiled rays; and unto the waters of the wide sea, the Vanguhi of wide renown⁴, and the species⁵ of the Bull, made by Mazda, the awful kingly Glory, and the Fravashi of the holy Spitama Zarathustra.

3. 'For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard, namely, unto the star Tistrya.

'Unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, we offer up the libations, the Haoma and meat, the baresma, the wisdom of the tongue, the holy spells, the speech, the deeds, the libations, and the rightly-spoken words⁶.

¹ Doubtful.

² The rain.

³ In his disguise as a horse; § 18.

⁴ See Vend., pp. 3, 5, note 2.

⁵ Nāma; see *Études Iraniennes*, II, 124.

⁶ Cf. p. 47.

‘Yêzhê hâtãm: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda

II.

4. ‘We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, who is the seed of the waters, powerful, tall, and strong, whose light goes afar; powerful and highly¹ working, through whom the brightness and the seed of the waters come from the high Apãm Napât².

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

III.

5. ‘We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star; for whom long³ flocks and herds and men, looking forward for him and deceived in their hope⁴: “When shall we see him rise up, the bright and glorious star Tistrya? When will the springs run with waves as thick as a horse’s size and still thicker? Or will they never come?”

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

IV.

6. ‘We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star; who flies, towards the sea Vouru-Kasha⁵, as swiftly as the arrow darted through the heavenly

¹ Powerfully.

² Or, ‘through whom the beauty of the waters comes from Bereza, and their seed from Apãm Napât.’ Bereza, the high, the tall, an epithet of Apãm Napât, became one of his names (Ized Bôrg; cf. § 34); for Apãm Napât, see above, p. 6, note 1.

³ Paitismareñti; cf. Yt. V, 123.

⁴ Or better, ‘in their looking.’

⁵ See above, p. 54, note 6.

space¹, which Erekhsha², the swift archer, the Arya amongst the Aryas whose arrow was the swiftest, shot from Mount Khshaotha to Mount *Hvanvant*³.

7. 'For Ahura Mazda gave him assistance; so did the waters and the plants; and Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, opened a wide way unto him.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

V.

8. 'We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, that afflicts the Pairikas, that vexes the Pairikas, who, in the shape of worm-stars⁴, fly

¹ *Mainivasau*=*mainyu-asau* (meaning pun *mînôî gîvâkîh*, *svargasthânâ*m, Yasna LVII, 27 [LVI, 11, 3]).

² Erekhsha *khshviwi-ishus*, in Pahlavi *Aris Shivâtîr* (see *Études Iranienes*, II, 220), or 'Aris of the swift arrow,' was the best archer in the Iranian army. When Minozihr and Afrâsyab determined to make peace and to fix the boundary between Irân and Tûrân, 'it was stipulated that Aris should ascend Mount Damâvand, and from thence discharge an arrow towards the east; and that the place in which the arrow fell should form the boundary between the two kingdoms. Aris thereupon ascended the mountain, and discharged towards the east an arrow, the flight of which continued from the dawn of day until noon, when it fell on the banks of the Gihûn (the Oxus),' (Mirkhond, *History of the Early Kings of Persia*, trans. by David Shea, p. 175; cf. Noeldeke, *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft*, 1881, p. 445.)

³ Mount Khshaotha seems to be the same as Mount Damâvand (see preceding note); Mount *Hvanvant* may be the same as Mount Bâmîân, from which the Balkh river springs, as according to Tabari (trans. by Noeldeke, l. 1.), Aris' arrow stopped at the Balkh river (an affluent of the Oxus). But it may be that the limits given refer to the course of Tistrya; cf. § 38, text and note.

⁴ Doubtful. Shooting stars are alluded to. Mr. Geiger remarks that there is a swarm of shooting stars falling every year just at the time when Tistrya, in the European climate, is supposed to be most active, on the 10th of August.

between the earth and the heavens, in the sea Vouru-Kasha, the powerful sea, the large-sized, deep sea of salt¹ waters. He goes to its lake in the shape of a horse, in a holy shape; and down there he makes the waters boil over, and the winds flow above powerfully all around.

9. 'Then Satavaêsa² makes those waters flow down to the seven Karshvares of the earth³, and when he has arrived down there, he stands, beautiful, spreading ease and joy on the fertile countries (thinking in himself): "How shall the countries of the Aryas grow fertile?"

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

VI.

10. 'We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, who spake unto Ahura Mazda, saying: "Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

11. "'If men would worship me with a sacrifice in which I were invoked by my own name, as they worship the other Yazatas with sacrifices in which they are invoked by their own names, then I should have come to the faithful at the appointed time⁴; I should have come in the appointed time of my

¹ See above, p. 66, note 3.

² Satavaêsa is said to be the leader of the western stars (to be read southern stars, Bund. II, 7), and has in its protection the seas of the southern quarter (ibid. XIII, 12); the Satavaêsa sea is the Persian gulf.

³ This seems to be an allusion to the tide in the Arabian sea (the sea Vouru-Kasha) and in the gulf of Oman, which, being a southern sea, is under the control of Satavaêsa (cf. preceding note and Vend. V, 18, note 1).

⁴ At the right time of the year when rain is expected.

beautiful, immortal life¹, should it be one night, or two nights, or fifty, or a hundred nights.”

12. ‘We sacrifice unto Tistrya ;

‘We sacrifice unto the rains of Tistrya².

‘We sacrifice unto the first star³; we sacrifice unto the rains of the first star.

‘I will sacrifice unto the stars Haptôiringa⁴, to oppose the Yâtus and Pairikas.

‘We sacrifice unto Vanant⁵, the star made by Mazda; for⁶ the well-shapen strength, for the Victory, made by Ahura, for the crushing Ascendant, for the destruction of what distresses us, for the destruction of what persecutes us.

‘We sacrifice unto Tistrya, whose eye-sight is sound⁷.

13. ‘For ten nights, O Spitama Zarathustra! Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, mingles his shape

¹ Cf. §§ 23-24 and Yt. X, 54-55, 74.

² As Tistrya is the producer of the rain: Tistryênnyaska = Tistara-tâarakasya *vriśhm* (Khorshêd Nyâyis 8, Sansk. tr.).

³ Tistrya; cf. p. 105, note 3.

⁴ Haptôiringa (Ursa Major) is the leader of the stars in the north (Bund. II, 7). It is ‘entrusted with the gate and passage of hell, to keep back those of the nine, and ninety, and nine hundred, and nine thousand and nine myriad demons, and demonesses, and fairies (Pairikas) and sorcerers (Yâtus) who are in opposition to the celestial sphere and constellations’ (Minokhired XLIX, 15; tr. by West).

⁵ Vanant is the leader of the stars in the south (read west; Bund. II, 7). Cf. Yt. XX.

⁶ To obtain This invocation is brought about by the very name of Vanant, which means ‘who smites, who overcomes.’ The peculiar office of Vanant is to keep the passes and gates of Mount Albôrz, around which the sun, the moon, and the stars revolve, and to prevent the Paris and Daêvas from cutting off and breaking the road of the sun (Minokhired XLIX, 12).

⁷ ‘I sacrifice to Tistar for (=to obtain) the soundness of the sight’ (Khorshêd Nyâyis 8, Pahl. tr.).

with light, moving in the shape of a man of fifteen years of age¹, bright, with clear eyes, tall, full of strength, strong, and clever.

14. 'He is active as the first man² was; he goes on with the strength of the first man; he has the virility³ of the first man.

15⁴. 'Here he calls for people to assemble, here he asks, saying: "Who now will offer me the libations with the Haoma and the holy meat? To whom shall I give wealth of male children, a troop of male children, and the purification of his own soul? Now I ought to receive sacrifice and prayer in the material world, by the law of excellent holiness."

16. 'The next ten nights, O Spitama Zarathustra! the bright and glorious Tistrya mingles his shape with light, moving in the shape of a golden-horned bull⁵.

17. 'Here he calls for people to assemble, here he asks, saying: "Who now will offer me the libations with the Haoma and the holy meat? To whom shall I give wealth of oxen, a herd of oxen, and the purification of his own soul? Now I ought to receive sacrifice and prayer in the material world, by the law of excellent holiness."

18. 'The next ten nights, O Spitama Zarathustra! the bright and glorious Tistrya mingles his shape with light, moving in the shape of a white, beautiful horse, with golden ears and a golden caparison.

¹ The age of fifteen is the paradisiacal age in the Avesta (Yasna IX, 5 [18]).

² Gayô maratan. But the translation is doubtful; possibly 'as a first-rate man is.'

³ Doubtful; cf. erezi, Yt. XIV, 29.

⁴ Cf. Yt. V, 8.

⁵ Cf. Vend. XIX, 37 (123).

19. 'Here he calls for people to assemble, here he asks, saying: "Who now will offer me the libations with the Haoma and the holy meat? To whom shall I give wealth of horses, a troop of horses, and the purification of his own soul? Now I ought to receive sacrifice and prayer in the material world, by the law of excellent holiness."

20. 'Then, O Spitama Zarathustra! the bright and glorious Tistrya goes down to the sea Vouru-Kasha in the shape of a white, beautiful horse, with golden ears and a golden caparison¹.

21. 'But there rushes down to meet him the Daêva Apaosha, in the shape of a dark horse, black with black ears, black with a black back, black with a black tail, stamped with brands of terror.

22. 'They meet together, hoof against hoof, O Spitama Zarathustra! the bright and glorious Tistrya and the Daêva Apaosha. They fight together, O Spitama Zarathustra! for three days and three nights. And then the Daêva Apaosha proves stronger than the bright and glorious Tistrya, he overcomes him.

23. 'And Tistrya flees from the sea Vouru-Kasha, as far as a Hâthra's² length. He cries out in woe and distress, the bright and glorious Tistrya: "Woe is me, O Ahura Mazda! I am in distress, O Waters and Plants! O Fate and thou, Law of the worshippers of Mazda! Men do not worship me with a

¹ 'Tistar was converted into three forms, the form of a man and the form of a horse and the form of a bull . . . as the astrologers say that every constellation has three forms' (Bund. VII, 4; tr. West). Tistrya promises his worshippers children (§ 15), oxen (§ 17), or horses (§ 19), according as he appears in the form of a man (§ 13), of a bull (§ 16), or of a horse (§ 18).

² A mile (Bundahis XXVI, 1; tr. West, note 1).

sacrifice in which I am invoked by my own name, as they worship the other Yazatas with sacrifices in which they are invoked by their own names¹.

24. "If men had worshipped me with a sacrifice in which I had been invoked by my own name, as they worship the other Yazatas with sacrifices in which they are invoked by their own names, I should have taken to me the strength of ten horses, the strength of ten camels, the strength of ten bulls, the strength of ten mountains, the strength of ten rivers²."

25. 'Then I, Ahura Mazda, offer up to the bright and glorious Tistrya a sacrifice in which he is invoked by his own name, and I bring him the strength of ten horses, the strength of ten camels, the strength of ten bulls, the strength of ten mountains, the strength of ten rivers.

26³. 'Then, O Spitama Zarathustra! the bright and glorious Tistrya goes down to the sea Vouru-Kasha in the shape of a white, beautiful horse, with golden ears and golden caparison.

27. 'But there rushes down to meet him the Daêva Apaosha in the shape of a dark horse, black with black ears, black with a black back, black with a black tail, stamped with brands of terror.

28. 'They meet together, hoof against hoof, O Spitama Zarathustra! the bright and glorious Tistrya, and the Daêva Apaosha; they fight together, O Zarathustra! till the time of noon. Then the bright and glorious Tistrya proves stronger than the Daêva Apaosha, he overcomes him.

29. 'Then he goes from the sea Vouru-Kasha as far as a Hâthra's length: "Hail!" cries the

¹ Cf. § 10 and Yt. X, 54 seq., 74.

² Cf. Vend. Introd. IV, 27.

³ §§ 26-27 = §§ 20-21.

bright and glorious Tistrya. "Hail unto me, O Ahura Mazda! Hail unto you, O waters and plants! Hail, O Law of the worshippers of Mazda! Hail will it be unto you, O lands! The life¹ of the waters will flow down unrestrained to the big-seeded² corn-fields, to the small-seeded³ pasture-fields, and to the whole of the material world!"

30. 'Then the bright and glorious Tistrya goes back down to the sea Vouru-Kasha, in the shape of a white, beautiful horse, with golden ears and a golden caparison⁴.

31. 'He makes the sea boil up and down; he makes the sea stream this and that way; he makes the sea flow this and that way: all the shores of the sea Vouru-Kasha are boiling over, all the middle of it is boiling over.

32. 'And the bright and glorious Tistrya rises up from the sea Vouru-Kasha, O Spitama Zarathustra! the bright and glorious Satavaêsa rises up from the sea Vouru-Kasha; and vapours rise up above Mount Us-hindu, that stands in the middle of the sea Vouru-Kasha⁵.

¹ Adhavô; possibly 'the streams;' cf. Yt. V, 1, note 2. A month in the ancient Persian calendar, supposed to correspond to September–October, was called âdukani, which might, on that hypothesis, mean '(the month) that makes streams spring up.'

² Of which the representative is wheat (Bundahis XXIV, 19).

³ Of which the representative is the summer vetch (ibid. 21).

⁴ Cf. § 18.

⁵ 'The Aûsindôm mountain is that which, being of ruby, of the substance of the sky, is in the midst of the wide-formed ocean (the sea Vouru-Kasha),' (Bund. XII, 6; tr. West). Mount Aûsindôm receives its waters through a golden channel from the height Hukairya (cf. Yt. V, 3); 'from there one portion flows forth to the ocean for the purification of the sea, and one portion drizzles in moisture upon the whole of this earth, and all the creations of

33. 'Then the vapours push forward, in the regular shape of clouds¹; they go following the wind, along the ways which Haoma traverses, the increaser of the world². Behind him travels the mighty wind, made by Mazda, and the rain, and the cloud, and the sleet, down to the several places, down to the fields, down to the seven Karshvares of the earth.

34. 'Apām Napât³, O Spitama Zarathustra! divides the waters amongst the countries in the material world, in company with the mighty wind, the Glory, made by the waters⁴, and the Fravashis of the faithful⁵.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

VII.

35. 'We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, who from the shining east, moves along his long winding course, along the path made by the gods, along the way appointed for him the

Aûharmazd acquire health from it, and it dispels the dryness of the atmosphere' (ibid. XIII, 5).

¹ Doubtful.

² Haoma opens the way for the waters from heaven, as being the foremost element in sacrifice (cf. § 24). For the same reason the Bundahis numbers Vohu-Manô, 'Good Mind,' amongst the co-operators of Tistrya.

³ See p. 6, note 1.

⁴ Or better, 'seated in the waters;' see Yt. XIX, 56 seq. and Yt. XIII, 65.

⁵ The Fravashis are active in the world struggle; cf. Yt. XIII, 43. 'Co-operators with Tîstar were Vohûman and the angel Hôm, with the assistance of the angel Bûrg (the same as Apām Napât; see p. 94, note 2) and the righteous guardian spirits in orderly arrangement' (Bundahis VII, 3, tr. West).

watery way, at the will of Ahura Mazda, at the will of the Amesha-Spentas.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

VIII.

36. ‘We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, whose rising is watched by men who live on the fruits of the year, by the chiefs of deep¹ understanding²; by the wild beasts in the mountains, by the tame beasts that run in the plains; they watch him, as he comes up to the country for a bad year, or for a good year³, (thinking in themselves): “How shall the Aryan countries be fertile?”

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

IX.

37⁴. ‘We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, swift-flying and swift-moving, who flies towards the sea Vouru-Kasha, as swiftly as the arrow darted through the heavenly space, which Erekhsha, the swift archer, the Arya amongst the Aryas whose arrow was the swiftest, shot from Mount Khshaotha to Mount *Hvanvant*.

38. ‘Ahura Mazda gave him assistance, and the Amesha-Spentas and Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, pointed him the way: behind him went the

¹ Doubtful.

² The chiefs of the state.

³ For good or bad harvest.

⁴ § 37=§ 6.

tall Ashis Vanguhi¹ and Pârendi² on her light chariot : always till, in his course, he reached Mount *Hvanvant* on the shining waters³.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

X.

39. ‘We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, who afflicts the Pairikas, who destroys the Pairikas, that Angra Mainyus flung to stop all the stars that have in them the seed of the waters⁴.

40. ‘Tistrya afflicts them, he blows them away from the sea Vouru-Kasha ; then the wind blows the clouds forward, bearing the waters of fertility, so that the friendly showers spread wide over, they spread helpfully and friendly over the seven Karshvares.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XI.

41. ‘We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, for whom long the standing waters, and the running spring-waters, the stream-waters, and the rain-waters :

42. “When will the bright and glorious Tistrya rise up for us ? When will the springs with a flow and overflow of waters, thick as a horse’s shoulder, run to the beautiful places and fields, and to the

¹ See Yt. XVII.

² See above, p. 111, note 5.

³ Doubtful. Mount *Hvanvant*, being situated in the sea Vouru-Kasha (as appears from Tistrya travelling towards that sea, § 38), seems to be the same with Mount Aûsindôm (§ 32).

⁴ Cf. above, § 8.

pastures, even to the roots of the plants, that they may grow with a powerful growth?"

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XII.

43. 'We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, who washes away all things of fear¹, who stunts the growth of all², and brings health to all these creations, being most beneficent, when he has been worshipped with a sacrifice and propitiated, rejoiced, and satisfied.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XIII.

44. 'I will sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, whom Ahura Mazda has established as a lord and overseer above all stars³, in the same way as he has established Zarathustra above men; whom neither Angra Mainyu, nor the Yâtus and the Pairikas, nor the men Yâtus⁴ can deliver unto death, nor can all the Daêvas together prevail for his death.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ *Simau*, meaning *sahmgûn*, *bhayamkara* (Yasna IX, 38 [93]).

² ? *Vazdriś*.

³ In the *Bundahis* it is especially the leader of the eastern stars; but the *Minokhired* calls it the first star (XLIX, 5; cf. above, § 12).

⁴ See above, p. 38, note 3.

XIV.

45. 'We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, to whom Ahura Mazda has given a thousand senses¹, and who is the most beneficent amongst the stars that have in them the seed of the waters :

46. 'Who moves in light with the stars that have in them the seed of the waters : he, from the sea Vouru-Kasha, the powerful sea, the large-sized, deep, and salt of waters, goes to all the lakes, and to all the beautiful caves, and to all the beautiful channels², in the shape of a white, beautiful horse, with golden ears and a golden caparison.

47. 'Then, O Spitama Zarathustra ! the waters flow down from the sea Vouru-Kasha, mother-like³, friendly, and healing : he divides them amongst these countries, being most beneficent, when he has been worshipped with a sacrifice and propitiated, rejoiced, and satisfied⁴.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XV.

48. 'We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, for whom long all the creatures of Spenta-Mainyu, those that live under the ground, and those that live above the ground ; those that live in the waters, and those that live on dry land ; those that fly, and those that run in the plains⁵ ; and all those

¹ See Yt. X, 82, note.

² Those of Ardvi Sûra Anâhita ; cf. Yt. V, 4, 101.

³ Cf. Yt. V, 15.

⁴ Cf. § 43.

⁵ See Yt. XIII, 10, note ; cf. Vispêrad I, 1, and Bundahis XXIV, tr. West, note 1.

that live within this boundless and endless world of the holy Spirit.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XVI.

49. ‘We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, the healthful, wise, happy, and powerful, who is the lord of a thousand boons, and grants many boons to that man who has pleased him, whether begging or not begging for them.

50. ‘I, O Spitama Zarathustra! have created that star Tistrya as worthy of sacrifice, as worthy of prayer, as worthy of propitiation, as worthy of glorification as myself, Ahura Mazda¹;

51. ‘In order to withstand, to break asunder, to afflict, to drive back the malice of that Pairika Duz-yâiryā², whom evil-speaking³ people call Huyâiryā⁴.

52. ‘Had I not created that star Tistrya as worthy of sacrifice, as worthy of prayer, as worthy of propitiation, as worthy of glorification as myself, Ahura Mazda;

53. ‘In order to withstand, to break asunder, to afflict, to drive back the malice of that Pairika Duz-yâiryā, whom evil-speaking people call Huyâiryā;

¹ Cf. Yt. X, 1.

² Bad year, that is to say, sterility, drought. Darius, the son of Hystaspes, also deprecates Duzyâiryā in one of his inscriptions: ‘May Ahura Mazda keep this country from the hostile host, from sterility (dusiyâra), from lying (disloyalty): may never the foreigner enter this country, nor the hostile host, nor sterility, nor lying’ (Persepolis, H, 15).

³ People who object to rain and are fond of fine weather (?).

⁴ Good year.

54. 'Then all day long, all night long, that Pairika Duzyâiryâ would wage war against this material world of mine, wanting to extinguish its life¹, and she goes on, rushing upon and around it.

55. 'But the bright and glorious Tistrya keeps that Pairika in bonds, with twofold bonds, with threefold bonds, that cannot be overcome, with bonds all over the body: it is as if there were a thousand men keeping one man in bonds, a thousand men of those who are the strongest in strength.

56. 'If the Aryan countries, O Spitama Zarathustra! would perform in honour of the bright and glorious Tistrya the due sacrifice and invocation, just as that sacrifice and invocation ought to be performed in the perfection of holiness; never should a hostile horde enter these Aryan countries, nor any plague, nor leprosy, nor venomous plants², nor the chariot of a foe, nor the uplifted spear of a foe.'

57³. Zarathustra asked: 'What is then, O Ahura Mazda! the sacrifice and invocation in honour of the bright and glorious Tistrya, as it ought to be performed in the perfection of holiness?'

58. Ahura Mazda answered: 'Let the Aryan nations bring libations unto him; let the Aryan nations tie bundles of baresma for him; let the Aryan nations cook for him a head of cattle, either white, or black, or of any other colour, but all of one and the same colour.

¹ Reading *ava[-derenâm]*; cf. Vend. XVIII, 18 [45].

² *Kapasti* is properly the *colocynthis* or bitter-apple:

'*Occidet et serpens, et fallax herba veneni
Occidet.*' (Ecl. IV, 24, 25.)

³ §§ 57-61 = Yt. XIV, 49-53; cf. Yt. V, 89 seq.

59. 'Let not a murderer take of these offerings, nor a whore, nor a¹ who does not sing the Gâthâs, who spreads death in the world and withstands the law of Mazda, the law of Zarathustra.

60. 'If a murderer take of these offerings, or a whore, or a who does not sing the Gâthâs, who spreads death in the world and withstands the law of Mazda, the law of Zarathustra, then the bright and glorious Tistrya takes back his healing virtues.

61. 'Plagues will ever pour upon the Aryan nations ; hostile hordes will ever fall upon the Aryan nations ; the Aryans will be smitten, by their fifties and their hundreds, by their hundreds and their thousands, by their thousands and their tens of thousands, by their tens of thousands and their myriads of myriads.

62. 'Yathâ ahû vairyô : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

'I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of Tistrya, the bright and glorious star, and of the powerful Satavaêsa, made by Mazda, who pushes waters forward.

'Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

'[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones².'

¹ ? Ashaovô.

² Cf. Yt. I, 33.

IX. GŌS YAST.

Gōs, 'the cow,' *καρ' ἐξοχήν*, is a personation of the animal kingdom which she maintains and protects. She is also called Drvâspa and Gosûrûn: Drvâspa means 'she who keeps horses in health,' and is nothing more than an epithet of Gōs: Gōsûrûn (from the Zend *Geus urvan*) means 'the Soul of the Bull' (the primeval Bull). Although *urvan* is a masculine noun in Zend, yet Gōsûrûn is considered a female angel, as this name is only a substitute for Gōs.

Gōs is the angel of the 14th day (Sîrôzah I, 14), and her Yast is recited during the Gâh Usahin, on the days of Gōs, Bahman, Mâh, and Râm (the same days as those on which the Mâh Yast is recited; see above, p. 88).

Gōs is hardly described in this Yast (§§ 1-2); the greater part of it being filled with the several prayers addressed to her by the Iranian heroes, Haoshyangha (§ 3), Yima (§ 8), Thraëtaona (§ 13), Haoma (§ 17), Husravah (§ 21), Zarathustra, and Vîstâspa. Her worshippers and their prayers to her are the same as in the case of Ashi Vanguhi (see Yt. XVII).

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced! May Angra Mainyu be afflicted!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daëvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, satisfaction, and glorification unto Hâvani, the holy and master of holiness.

Unto the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy¹,

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

¹ Sîrôzah I, 14.

I.

1. We sacrifice unto the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy, who keeps the flocks in health, the herds in health, the grown-up¹ (cattle) in health, the young ones in health; who watches well from afar, with a wide-spread and long-continued welfare-giving friendship;

2. Who yokes teams of horses, who makes her chariot turn and its wheels sound, fat and glistening², strong, tall-formed, weal-possessing, health-giving, powerful to stand and powerful to turn for assistance to the faithful.

3. To her did Haoshyangha, the Paradhâta³, offer up a sacrifice on the enclosure of the Hara, the beautiful height, made by Mazda, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, and ten thousand lambs, and with an offering of libations:

4. 'Grant me this boon, O good, most beneficent Drvâspa! that I may overcome all the Daêvas of Mâzana⁴; that I may never fear and bow through terror before the Daêvas, but that all the Daêvas may fear and bow in spite of themselves before me, that they may fear and flee down to darkness⁵.'

5. The powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda, the holy Drvâspa, the maintainer, granted him that boon, as he was offering libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

6. For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard; I will offer her a sacrifice well performed, namely, unto the powerful

¹ Doubtful; possibly 'the friend in health, the child in health.'

² Doubtful.

³ Cf. p. 58, note 1.

⁴ Cf. p. 59, note 2.

⁵ To hell.

Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy. We offer up libations to the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy; we offer her the Haoma and meat, the baresma, the wisdom of the tongue, the holy spells, the speech, the deeds, the libations, and the rightly-spoken words.

Yênhê hâtãm: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda¹

II.

7. We offer up a sacrifice unto the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy, who keeps the flocks in health

Who yokes teams of horses for assistance to the faithful².

8. To her did Yima Khshaêta, the good shepherd, offer up a sacrifice from the height Hukairya, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs, and with an offering of libations:

9. 'Grant me this boon, O good, most beneficent Drvâspa! that I may bring fatness and flocks down to the world created by Mazda; that I may bring immortality down to the world created by Mazda;

10. 'That I may take away both hunger and thirst, from the world created by Mazda; that I may take away both old age and death, from the world created by Mazda; that I may take away both hot wind and cold wind, from the world created by Mazda, for a thousand years³.'

11. The powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda, the holy Drvâspa, the maintainer, granted him that boon,

¹ As above, p. 30.

² § 7=§§ 1-2.

³ §§ 8-10=Yt. XVII, 28-30; cf. Yasna IX, 4-5 [11-20]; Yt. V, 25-27.

as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard

III.

12. We offer up a sacrifice unto the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy, who keeps the flocks in health

Who yokes teams of horses for assistance to the faithful.

13¹. To her did Thraêtaona, the heir of the valiant Âthwya clan, offer up a sacrifice in the four-cornered Varena, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs, and with an offering of libations :

14. 'Grant me this boon, O good, most beneficent Drvâspa! that I may overcome Azi Dahâka, the three-mouthed, the three-headed, the six-eyed, who has a thousand senses, that most powerful, fiendish Drug, that demon, baleful to the world, the strongest Drug that Angra Mâinyu created against the material world, to destroy the world of the good principle; and that I may deliver his two wives, Savanghavâê and Erenavâê, who are the fairest of body amongst women, and the most wonderful creatures in the world¹.'

15. The powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda, the holy Drvâspa, the maintainer, granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ Yt. V, 34; XV, 24; XVII, 34.

IV.

16. We offer up a sacrifice unto the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy, who keeps flocks in health

Who yokes teams of horses for assistance to the faithful.

17¹. To her did Haoma² offer up a sacrifice, Haoma, the enlivening, the healing, the beautiful, the lordly, with golden eyes, upon the highest height of the Haraiti Bareza. He begged of her a boon, saying :

18. 'Grant me this boon, O good, most beneficent Drvâspa! that I may bind the Turanian murderer, Franghrasyan³, that I may drag him bound, that I may bring him bound unto king Husravah, that king Husravah may kill him, behind the *Kaêkasta* lake⁴, the deep lake of salt⁵ waters, to avenge the murder of his father Syâvarshâna⁶, a man, and of Aghraêratha, a semi-man⁷.'

¹ §§ 17-19=Yt. XVII, 37-38.

² Cf. Yasna XI, 7 [20-21]. The destruction of the fiends, being one of the principal effects of sacrifice, is ascribed to Haoma as the most powerful element in the sacrifice. In the *Shâh Nâmah*, the god Haoma has been turned into a hermit who, living near the cave in which Afrâsyâb had taken refuge (see above, Yt. V, 41), overhears his lamentations, takes him by surprise, binds him, and delivers him into the hands of Khosrav (*Études Iraniennes*, II, 227).

³ See p. 64, note 1.

⁴ See above, p. 66, note 2.

⁵ See p. 66, note 3.

⁶ See p. 64, note 1.

⁷ Doubtful (*narava*, as opposed to *nara*). Aghraêratha (*Aghrêrath*) was a brother of Afrâsyâb's; he was a righteous man, and Afrâsyâb killed him for his having saved the Iranian king *Minokîhr* with his army, when captive in the *Padashkhvâr* mountains (*Bundahis* XXXI, 21). Yet he is still living as an immortal in the land of *Saukavastân*, under the name of *Gôpatshâh* (the king of the bulls); 'from foot to mid-body he is a bull, and from mid-body to

19. The powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda, the holy Drvâspa, the maintainer, granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would give him that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard

V.

20. We offer up a sacrifice unto the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy, who keeps the flocks in health

Who yokes teams of horses for assistance to the faithful.

21¹. To her did the gallant Husravah, he who united the Arya nations into one kingdom, offer up a sacrifice, behind the *Kaêkasta* lake, the deep lake of salt waters, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs, and an offering of libations :

22. 'Grant me this boon, O good, most beneficent Drvâspa! that I may kill the Turanian murderer, Franghrasyan, behind the *Kaêkasta* lake, the deep lake of salt waters, to avenge the murder of my father Syâvarshâna, a man, and of Aghraêratha, a semi-man².'

23. The powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda, the holy Drvâspa, the maintainer, granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacri-

the top he is a man; at all times he stays on the sea-shore, and always performs the worship of God, and always pours holy-water into the sea' (Minokhired LXII, 31 seq., tr. West; Bund. XXIX, 5); according to Bund. XXXI, 20, Aghrêrath was not Gôpatshâh, he was his father. Cf. Yt. XIX, 93.

¹ §§ 21-22 = Yt. XVII, 41-42.

² See p. 114, note 7.

ficing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard

VI.

24. We offer up a sacrifice unto the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy, who keeps the flocks in health

Who yokes teams of horses for assistance to the faithful.

25¹. To her did the holy Zarathustra offer up a sacrifice in the Airyana Vaêgah, by the good river Dâitya, with the Haoma and meat, with the baresma, with the wisdom of the tongue, with the holy spells, with the speech, with the deeds, with the libations, and with the rightly-spoken words. He begged of her a boon, saying :

26. 'O good, most beneficent Drvâspa ! grant me this boon, that I may bring the good and noble Hutaosa² to think according to the law, to speak according to the law, to do according to the law, that she may spread my Mazdean law and make it known, and that she may bestow beautiful praises upon my deeds.'

27. The strong Drvâspa, made by Mazda, the holy Drvâspa, the maintainer, granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ §§ 25-26=XVII, 44-45; cf. Yt. V, 104.

² Hutaosa was the wife of king Vistâspa; cf. Yt. XV, 37.

VII.

28. We offer up a sacrifice unto the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy, who keeps the flocks in health

Who yokes teams of horses for assistance to the faithful.

29¹. To her did the tall Kavi Vistâspa offer up a sacrifice behind the waters of the river Dâitya, with a hundred male horses, a thousand oxen, ten thousand lambs, and with an offering of libations :

30. ' Grant me this boon, O good, most beneficent Drvâspa ! that I may put to flight Asta-aurvant, the son of Vîspa-thaurvô-asti, the all-afflicting, of the brazen helmet, of the brazen armour, of the thick neck, behind whom seven hundred camels² ; that I may put to flight the *Hvyaona* murderer, Aregat-aspas³ ; that I may put to flight Darsinika⁴, the worshipper of the Daêvas ;

31. And that I may smite Tâthravant⁵ of the bad law ; that I may smite Spingauruska⁴, the worshipper of the Daêvas ; and that I may bring unto the good law the nations of the Varedhakas and of the *Hvyaonas*⁶ ; and that I may smite of the *Hvyaona* nations their fifties and their hundreds, their hundreds and their thousands, their thousands and their

¹ §§ 29-31 = Yt. XVII, 49-51.

² ? *Gainyâvarat*.

³ See above, p. 79, note 4.

⁴ " *Ἀπαξ λεγόμενος*.

⁵ Mentioned Yt. V, 109 and XIX, 87.

⁶ The *Hvyaonas* seem to have been the Chionitae, a bellicose tribe, near the land of Gilan, often at war with the first Sassanides (Amm. Marcellinus XVII, 5). The name of the Varedhakas reminds one of the Vertae who are mentioned once in company with the Chionitae (ibid. XIX, 1) ; but their geographical situation is not ascertained. In any case the proximity of the Dâitya (§ 29) shows that both people must have inhabited the western coast of the Caspian sea.

tens of thousands, their tens of thousands and their myriads of myriads.

32. The strong Drvâspa, made by Mazda, the holy Drvâspa, the maintainer, granted him that boon, as he was offering up libations, giving gifts, sacrificing, and entreating that she would grant him that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard; I will offer her a sacrifice well performed, namely, unto the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy. We offer up libations to the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy; we offer her the Haoma and meat, the baresma, the wisdom of the tongue, the holy spells, the speech, the deeds, the libations, and the rightly-spoken words.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of the powerful Drvâspa, made by Mazda and holy.

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, give him health of body, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

X. MIHIR YAST.

This Yast, one of the longest of the Avesta and one of the most interesting in a literary point of view, is not very instructive for mythology. It consists of long descriptive pieces, sometimes rather spirited, and of fervent prayers and invocations for mercy or protection. Originally Mithra was the god of the heavenly light (§§ 12, 50, 67, 104, 124 seq., 136 seq., &c.); and in that character he knows the truth, as he sees everything; he is therefore taken as a witness of truth, he is the preserver of oaths and good faith (§§ 2, 44 seq., 79 seq., 81 seq., &c.); he chastises those who break their promises and lie to Mithra, destroys their houses and smites them in battle (§§ 17 seq., 28 seq., 35 seq., 47 seq., 99 seq., 105 seq., 112 seq., 128 seq., &c.).

Particularly interesting are §§ 115-118, as giving a sketch of moral hierarchy in Iran, and §§ 121-122, as being perhaps the source of the trials in the later Roman Mithriacism. Cf. Vend. Introd. IV, 8 and Ormazd et Ahriman, §§ 59-61.

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced !

Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas, and obeys the laws of Ahura ;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness

Unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, who has a thousand ears, ten thousand eyes, a Yazata invoked by his own name, and unto Râma *Hvâstra*¹,

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I.

1. Ahura Mazda spake unto Spitama Zarathustra, saying : ' Verily, when I created Mithra, the lord of

¹ Sîrôzah I, 16.

wide pastures, O Spitama ! I created him as worthy of sacrifice, as worthy of prayer as myself, Ahura Mazda¹.

2. 'The ruffian who lies unto Mithra² brings death unto the whole country, injuring as much the faithful world as a hundred evil-doers³ could do. Break not the contract, O Spitama ! neither the one that thou hadst entered into with one of the unfaithful, nor the one that thou hadst entered into with one of the faithful who is one of thy own faith⁴. For Mithra stands for both the faithful and the unfaithful.

3. 'Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, gives swiftness to the horses of those who lie not unto Mithra.

'Fire, the son of Ahura Mazda, gives the straightest way to those who lie not unto Mithra.

'The good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful give a virtuous offspring to those who lie not unto Mithra.

4. 'For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard, namely, unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures.

'We offer up libations unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, who gives a happy dwelling and a good dwelling to the Aryan nations.

5. 'May he come to us for help ! May he come to us for ease ! May he come to us for joy ! May he come to us for mercy ! May he come to us for health ! May he come to us for victory ! May he

¹ Cf. Yt. VIII, 50.

² The Mithradrug : one might also translate 'who breaks the contract,' as mithra, as a common noun, means 'a contract.'

³ Kayadhas ; cf. Yt. I, 19.

⁴ Cf. Ardâ Viraf, chap. lii.

come to us for good conscience¹! May he come to us for bliss²! he, the awful and overpowering, worthy of sacrifice and prayer, not to be deceived anywhere in the whole of the material world, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures.

6. 'I will offer up libations unto him, the strong Yazata, the powerful Mithra, most beneficent to the creatures: I will apply unto him with charity³ and prayers: I will offer up a sacrifice worth being heard unto him, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, with the Haoma and meat, with the baresma, with the wisdom of the tongue, with the holy spells, with the speech, with the deeds, with the libations, and with the rightly-spoken words.

'Yênhê hâtãm: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda⁴

II.

7. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, who is truth-speaking, a chief in assemblies, with a thousand ears, well-shapen, with ten thousand eyes, high, with full knowledge⁵, strong, sleepless, and ever awake⁶;

¹ Cheerfulness at the head of the *Kinvat* bridge (Yasna LXII, 6 [LXI, 17]; cf. Vend. XVIII, 6).

² The condition of the blessed in the next world.

³ *Vanta*, 'assistance, that is, making *gâdangôî*' (Yasna LXII [LXI], 1; *gâdangôî* is making a collection for the poor (Études Iraniennes, II, 155).

⁴ As p. 30.

⁵ *Perethu-vaêdhayana: sampûrnavittâram kâryanyâyânam* (Khorshêd Nyâyis 6).

⁶ *Gaghâurvaung hem*: this word, strangely enough, is generally translated 'who has most strong arms' (*balish/abugam*); *gagâuru* is translated in the same way.

8. 'To whom the chiefs of nations offer up sacrifices, as they go to the field, against havocking hosts, against enemies coming in battle array, in the strife of conflicting nations.

9. 'On whichever side he has been worshipped first in the fulness of faith of a devoted heart, to that side turns Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, with the fiend-smiting wind, with the cursing thought of the wise¹.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

III.

10. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake.

11. 'Whom the horsemen worship on the back of their horses, begging swiftness for their teams, health for their own bodies, and that they may watch with full success those who hate them, smite down their foes, and destroy at one stroke their adversaries, their enemies, and those who hate them².

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

IV.

12. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake ;

13. 'Who first of the heavenly gods reaches over the Hara³, before the undying, swift-horsed sun⁴ ;

¹ See p. 12, note 13.

² Cf. Yt. V, 53 ; X, 94.

³ Mount Albôrz, whence the sun rises ; see § 50.

⁴ Mithra is closely connected with the sun, but not yet identical with it, as he became in later times (𐬨𐬀𐬎𐬎, the sun ; Deo invicto Soli Mithrae).

who, foremost in a golden array, takes hold of the beautiful summits, and from thence looks over the abode of the Aryans with a beneficent eye.

14. 'Where the valiant chiefs draw up their many troops in array¹; where the high mountains, rich in pastures and waters, yield plenty to the cattle²; where the deep lakes, with salt waters, stand³; where wide-flowing rivers swell and hurry towards Iskata and Pouruta, Mouru and Harôyu, the Gava-Sughdha and *Hvâirizem*⁴;

15. 'On Arezahi and Savahi, on Fradadhafshu and Vîdadhafshu, on Vourubaresti and Vourugaresti, on this bright Karshvare of *Hvaniratha*⁵, the abode of cattle, the dwelling of cattle, the powerful Mithra looks with a health-bringing eye;

16. 'He who moves along all the Karshvares, a Yazata unseen, and brings glory; he who moves along all the Karshvares, a Yazata unseen, and brings sovereignty; and increases⁶ strength for

¹ In the flat countries.

² In the mountainous parts of Iran.

³ In the lake regions (Seistan, Farsistan, Âdarbaigân).

⁴ In the country of the large rivers in the East. Mouru is Marv (Margiana), with the Murghâb river (the Margus); Harôyu is the Herat country, with the Harêrûd; Gava-Sughdha and *Hvâirizm* are Sogdiana and Khvârizm, with the Oxus. The situation of Iskata and Pouruta is not clear: one might think of Alexander eschata on the Iaxartes and the Paretacene country between the Oxus and the Iaxartes.

⁵ The earth is divided into seven Karshvares, separated from one another by seas and mountains impassable to men. Arezahi and Savahi are the western and the eastern Karshvare; Fradadhafshu and Vîdadhafshu are in the south; Vourubaresti and Vourugaresti are in the north; *Hvaniratha* is the central Karshvare. *Hvaniratha* is the only Karshvare inhabited by man (Bundahis XI, 3).

⁶ Doubtful.

victory to those who, with a pious intent, holily offer him libations.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

V.

17. ‘We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake ;

‘Unto whom nobody must lie, neither the master of a house, nor the lord of a borough, nor the lord of a town, nor the lord of a province.

18. ‘If the master of a house lies unto him, or the lord of a borough, or the lord of a town, or the lord of a province, then comes Mithra, angry and offended, and he breaks asunder the house, the borough, the town, the province ; and the masters of the houses, the lords of the boroughs, the lords of the towns, the lords of the provinces, and the foremost men of the provinces.

19. ‘On whatever side there is one who has lied unto Mithra, on that side Mithra stands forth, angry and offended, and his wrath¹ is slow to relent².

20. ‘Those who lie unto Mithra, however swift they may be running, cannot overtake³; riding, cannot . . .³; driving, cannot . . .³. The spear that the foe of Mithra flings, darts backwards, for the

¹ Mainyu, in the meaning of the Sanskrit manyu (ṛ).

² Doubtful; *aspakāt*: cf. سهوختن, to be late.

³ *Apayêinti*, *frastanvainti*, *framanyêintê*: these are three technical words for the movements of the three classes of soldiers, footmen, horsemen, and chariot-men; the last two words are probably synonymous with the first, but the exact shades of meaning are not known. Mr. West suggests, cannot outrun, outride, outdrive him.

number of the evil spells that the foe of Mithra works out¹.

21. 'And even though the spear be flung well, even though it reach the body, it makes no wound, for the number of the evil spells that the foe of Mithra works out¹. The wind drives away the spear that the foe of Mithra flings, for the number of the evil spells that the foe of Mithra works out.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

VI.

22. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake ;

'Who takes out of distress the man who has not lied unto him, who takes him out of death.

23. 'Take us out of distress, take us out of distresses, O Mithra! as we have not lied unto thee. Thou bringest down terror upon the bodies of the men who lie unto Mithra; thou takest away the strength from their arms, being angry and all-powerful; thou takest the swiftness from their feet, the eye-sight from their eyes, the hearing from their ears.

24. 'Not the wound² of the well-sharpened spear or of the flying arrow reaches that man to whom Mithra comes for help with all the strength of his soul, he, of the ten thousand spies, the powerful, all-seeing, undeceivable Mithra.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ The sacramental words of the contract, by their not being kept, turn to evil spells against the contract-breaker.

² Doubtful: *sanamayô*, or *sanamaoyô*; read *shanmaoyô* (?), from *shan*, Sansk. *kshan*.

VII.

25. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures,
sleepless, and ever awake;

'Who is lordly, deep, strong, and weal-giving;
a chief in assemblies, pleased with prayers¹, high,
holily clever, the incarnate Word, a warrior with
strong arms;

26. 'Who breaks the skulls of the Daêvas, and is
most cruel in exacting pains; the punisher of the
men who lie unto Mithra, the withstander of the
Pairikas; who, when not deceived, establisheth
nations in supreme strength; who, when not de-
ceived, establisheth nations in supreme victory;

27. 'Who confounds the ways of the nation that
delights in havoc, who turns away their Glory², takes
away their strength for victory, blows them away
helpless³, and delivers them unto ten thousand
strokes; he, of the ten thousand spies, the powerful,
all-seeing, undeceivable Mithra.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth
being heard

VIII.

28. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures,
sleepless, and ever awake;

'Who upholds the columns of the lofty house and
makes its pillars⁴ solid; who gives herds of oxen and
male children to that house in which he has been
satisfied; he breaks to pieces those in which he has
been offended.

29. 'Thou, O Mithra! art both bad and good to

¹ Vahmô-sendah; cf. Vispêrad VIII (IX, 1), Phl. tr.

² Their *Hvarenô*.

³ Doubtful.

⁴ *Āithya*; cf. Lat. *antae* (Brugmann).

nations; thou, O Mithra! art both bad and good to men; thou, O Mithra! keepest in thy hands both peace and trouble for nations.

30. 'Thou makest houses large, beautiful with women, beautiful with chariots, with well-laid foundations¹, and high above their groundwork²; thou makest that house lofty, beautiful with women, beautiful with chariots, with well-laid foundations, and high above its groundwork, of which the master, pious and holding libations in his hand, offers thee a sacrifice, in which thou art invoked by thy own name and with the proper words.

31. 'With a sacrifice, in which thou art invoked by thy own name, with the proper words will I offer thee libations, O powerful Mithra!

'With a sacrifice, in which thou art invoked by thy own name, with the proper words will I offer thee libations, O most beneficent Mithra!

'With a sacrifice, in which thou art invoked by thy own name, with the proper words will I offer thee libations, O thou undeceivable Mithra!

32. 'Listen unto our sacrifice³, O Mithra! Be thou pleased with our sacrifice, O Mithra! Come and sit at our sacrifice! Accept our libations! Accept them as they have been consecrated⁴! Gather them together with love and lay them in the Garô-nmâna!

33. 'Grant us these boons which we beg of thee, O powerful god! in accordance⁵ with the words of revelation, namely, riches, strength, and victory, good conscience and bliss⁶, good fame and a good

¹ Doubtful.

² Doubtful.

³ Cf. Yt. III, 18.

⁴ By the proper prayers (*yastau*).

⁵ Doubtful.

⁶ Cf. § 5.

soul; wisdom and the knowledge that gives happiness¹, the victorious strength given by Ahura, the crushing Ascendant of Asha Vahista, and conversation (with God) on the Holy Word².

34. 'Grant that we, in a good spirit and high spirit, exalted in joy and a good spirit, may smite all our foes; that we, in a good spirit and high spirit, exalted in joy and a good spirit, may smite all our enemies; that we, in a good spirit and high spirit, exalted in joy and a good spirit, may smite all the malice of Daêvas and Men, of the Yâtus and Pairikas, of the oppressors, the blind, and the deaf³.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

IX.

35. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'Victory-making⁴, army-governing, endowed with a thousand senses⁵; power-wielding, power-possessing, and all-knowing;

36. 'Who sets the battle a going, who stands against (armies) in battle, who, standing against (armies) in battle, breaks asunder the lines arrayed. The wings of the columns gone to battle shake, and he throws terror upon the centre of the havocking host.

37. 'He can bring and does bring down upon them distress and fear; he throws down the heads of those who lie unto Mithra, he takes off the heads of those who lie unto Mithra.

¹ Spiritual happiness, bliss.

² Vend. XVIII, 51 [111].

³ See above, p. 26, note 2. §§ 30-34 = §§ 56-59.

⁴ Doubtful (reading *arena/-gaêsha?*).

⁵ See § 82, note.

38. 'Sad is the abode, unpeopled with children, where abide men who lie unto Mithra, and, verily, the fiendish killer of faithful men. The grazing cow goes a sad straying way, driven along the vales¹ of the Mithradruzes: they² stand on the road, letting tears run over their chins³.

39. 'Their falcon-feathered arrows, shot from the string of the well-bent bow, fly towards the mark, and hit it not, as Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, angry, offended, and unsatisfied, comes and meets them.

'Their spears, well whetted and sharp, their long spears fly from their hands towards the mark, and hit it not, as Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, angry, offended, and unsatisfied, comes and meets them.

40. 'Their swords, well thrust and striking at the heads of men, hit not the mark, as Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, angry, offended, and unsatisfied, comes and meets them.

'Their clubs, well falling and striking at the heads of men, hit not the mark, as Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, angry, offended, and unsatisfied, comes and meets them.

41. 'Mithra strikes fear into them; Rashnu⁴ strikes a counter-fear into them⁵; the holy Sraosha blows them away from every side towards the two Yazatas, the maintainers of the world⁶. They make the ranks of the army melt away, as Mithra, the lord

¹ Doubtful.

² The cattle.

³ The meaning is, that the cattle of the Mithradruzes do not thrive, and that their pasture-fields are waste.

⁴ See Yt. XII.

⁵ As they flee from Mithra, they fall into the hands of Rashnu.

⁶ Thrâtâra; one might feel inclined to read thrâstâra, 'the fear-striking;' cf. § 36.

of wide pastures, angry, offended, and unsatisfied, comes and meets them¹.

42. 'They cry unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, saying: "O Mithra, thou lord of wide pastures! here are our fiery horses taking us away, as they flee from Mithra; here are our sturdy arms cut to pieces by the sword, O Mithra!"

43. 'And then Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, throws them to the ground, killing their fifties and their hundreds, their hundreds and their thousands, their thousands and their tens of thousands, their tens of thousands and their myriads of myriads; as Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, is angry and offended.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

X.

44. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'Whose dwelling, wide as the earth, extends over the material world, large², unconfined², and bright, a far-and-wide-extending abode.

45. 'Whose eight friends³ sit as spies for Mithra, on all the heights, at all the watching-places, observing the man who lies unto Mithra, looking at those, remembering those who have lied unto Mithra, but guarding the ways of those whose life is sought by

¹ Cf. §§ 99-101.

² Doubtful. The text is corrupt.

³ Doubtful. The number eight has probably an astronomical signification, each of the eight râtis of Mithra occupying one of the eight points of the compass.

men who lie unto Mithra, and, verily, by the fiendish killers of faithful men.

46. 'Helping and guarding, guarding behind and guarding in front, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, proves an undeceivable spy and watcher for the man to whom he comes to help with all the strength of his soul, he of the ten thousand spies, the powerful, all-knowing, undeceivable god.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XI.

47. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake ;

'A god of high renown and old age¹, whom wide-hoofed horses carry against havocking hosts, against enemies coming in battle array, in the strife of conflicting nations².

48. 'And when Mithra drives along towards the havocking hosts, towards the enemies coming in battle array, in the strife of the conflicting nations, then he binds the hands of those who have lied unto Mithra, he confounds their eye-sight, he takes the hearing from their ears ; they can no longer move their feet ; they can no longer withstand those people, those foes, when Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, bears them ill-will.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XII.

49. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake ;

50. 'For whom the Maker, Ahura Mazda, has

¹ Doubtful.

² Cf. § 8.

built up a dwelling on the Hara Berezaiti, the bright mountain around which the many (stars) revolve¹, where come neither night nor darkness, no cold wind and no hot wind, no deathful sickness, no uncleanness made by the Daêvas, and the clouds cannot reach up unto the Haraiti Bareza²;

51. 'A dwelling that all the Amesha-Speñtas, in one accord with the sun, made for him in the fulness of faith of a devoted heart, and he surveys the whole of the material world from the Haraiti Bareza.

52. 'And when there rushes a wicked worker of evil, swiftly, with a swift step, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, goes and yokes his horses to his chariot, along with the holy, powerful Sraosha and Nairyô-sangha³, who strikes a blow that smites the army, that smites the strength of the malicious⁴.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XIII.

53. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

54. 'Who, with hands lifted up, ever cries unto Ahura Mazda, saying: "I am the kind keeper of all creatures, I am the kind maintainer of all creatures; yet men worship me not with a sacrifice in which I am invoked by my own name, as they worship the other gods with sacrifices in which they are invoked by their own names.

55⁵. "'If men would' worship me with a sacrifice

¹ Bundahis V, 3 seq.; cf. Yt. XII, 13, and Yt. X, 13.

² The Haraiti Bareza is the same as Hara Berezaiti.

³ Sîrôzah I, 9, notes 4 and 5.

⁴ Doubtful (mâyaos).

⁵ Cf. Yt. VIII, 11, 24, and Yt. X, 74.

in which I were invoked by my own name, as they worship the other Yazatas with sacrifices in which they are invoked by their own names, then I would come to the faithful at the appointed time ; I would come in the appointed time of my beautiful, immortal life."

56¹. ' But the pious man, holding libations in his hands, does worship thee with a sacrifice, in which thou art invoked by thy own name, and with the proper words.

' With a sacrifice, in which thou art invoked by thy own name, with the proper words will I offer thee libations, O powerful Mithra !

' With a sacrifice, in which thou art invoked by thy own name, with the proper words will I offer thee libations, O most beneficent Mithra !

' With a sacrifice, in which thou art invoked by thy own name, with the proper words will I offer thee libations, O thou undeceivable Mithra !

57. ' Listen unto our sacrifice, O Mithra ! Be thou pleased with our sacrifice, O Mithra ! Come and sit at our sacrifice ! Accept our libations ! Accept them as they have been consecrated ! Gather them together with love and lay them in the Garô-nmâna !

58. ' Grant us these boons which we beg of thee, O powerful god ! in accordance with the words of revelation, namely, riches, strength, and victory, good conscience and bliss, good fame and a good soul ; wisdom and the knowledge that gives happiness, the victorious strength given by Ahura, the crushing Ascendant of Asha-Vahista, and conversation (with God) on the Holy Word.

¹ §§ 56-59=§§ 30-34.

59. 'Grant that we, in a good spirit and high spirit, exalted in joy and a good spirit, may smite all our foes; that we, in a good spirit and high spirit, exalted in joy and a good spirit, may smite all our enemies; that we, in a good spirit and high spirit, exalted in joy and a good spirit, may smite all the malice of Daêvas and Men, of the Yâtus and Pairikas, of the oppressors, the blind, and the deaf.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XIV.

60. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'Whose renown is good, whose shape is good, whose glory is good; who has boons to give at his will, who has pasture-fields to give at his will; harmless to the tiller of the ground,¹, beneficent; he, of the ten thousand spies, the powerful, all-knowing, undeceivable god.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XV.

61. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'Firm-legged², a watcher fully awake; valiant, a chief in assemblies; making the waters flow forward; listening to appeals; making the waters run and the plants grow up; ruling over the Karsh-

¹ The text is corrupt (*vasô-yaonâi inatâm?*).

² *Eredhwô-zangem: sudridhagaṅghatâ, kila kârÿe yad pâdâ-bhyâm yugyate kartum vyavasâyî saktas̄ka* (*Yasna LXII, 5 [LXI, 13]*).

vares¹; delivering²; happy³; undeceivable; endowed with many senses⁴; a creature of wisdom;

62. 'Who gives neither strength nor vigour to him who has lied unto Mithra; who gives neither glory nor any boon to him who has lied unto Mithra.

63. 'Thou takest away the strength from their arms, being angry and all-powerful; thou takest the swiftness from their feet, the eye-sight from their eyes, the hearing from their ears.

'Not the wound of the well-sharpened spear or of the flying arrow reaches that man to whom Mithra comes for help with all the strength of his soul, he, of the ten-thousand spies, the powerful, all-knowing, undeceivable god⁵.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XVI.

64. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'Who takes possession⁶ of the beautiful, wide-expanding law, greatly and powerfully, and whose face looks over all the seven Karshvares of the earth;

65. 'Who is swift amongst the swift, liberal amongst the liberal, strong amongst the strong, a chief of assembly amongst the chiefs of assemblies; increase-giving, fatness-giving, cattle-giving, sovereignty-giving, son-giving, cheerfulness⁷-giving, and bliss⁷-giving.

¹ Karsô-râzanghem: kêsvar virâi (Pahl. tr. *ibid.*).

² From Ahriman; cf. Yasna XXIX, 6 (vyâna = viârisn, visuddhatâ.)

³ Yaokhstivanî: kâmakômand (possessing whatever he wishes for, Vend. XX, 1 [3]).

⁴ See Yt. X, 82, note.

⁵ From Yt. X, 23-24.

⁶ Cf. Yasna XLIII, 7: vyânayâ: amat vandînî, yat grîhîâtî.

⁷ Cf. Yt. X, 5, p. 121, notes 1 and 2.

66. 'With whom proceed Ashi Vanguhi, and Pârendi on her light chariot¹, the awful Manly Courage, the awful kingly Glory, the awful sovereign Sky, the awful cursing thought² of the wise, the awful Fra-vashis of the faithful, and he who keeps united together the many faithful worshippers of Mazda³.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XVII.

67. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake ;

'Who drives along on his high-wheeled chariot, made of a heavenly⁴ substance, from the Karshvare of Arezahi⁵ to the Karshvare of *Hvaniratha*, the bright one; accompanied by⁶ the wheel of sovereignty⁷, the Glory made by Mazda, and the Victory made by Ahura ;

68. 'Whose chariot is embraced⁸ by the great Ashi Vanguhi; to whom the Law of Mazda opens a way, that he may go easily; whom four heavenly steeds, white, shining, seen afar, beneficent, endowed with knowledge, swiftly⁹ carry along the heavenly space¹⁰, while the cursing thought of the wise pushes it forward ;

69. 'From whom all the Daêvas unseen and the Varena fiends¹¹ flee away in fear. Oh! may we

¹ Cf. Yt. VIII, 38.

² See above, p. 12, note 13.

³ Mithra himself (?).

⁴ Or 'invisible.'

⁵ The western Karshvare (see above, p. 123, note 5); this seems to refer to the career of Mithra during the night; cf. § 95.

⁶ And rolling upon it.

⁷ Cf. Yt. XIII, 89, note.

⁸ And uplifted.

⁹ Doubtful.

¹⁰ See above, p. 95, note 1.

¹¹ See Vend. Introd. IV, 23.

never fall across the rush of the angry lord¹, who goes and rushes from a thousand sides against his foe, he, of the ten thousand spies, the powerful, all-knowing, undeceivable god.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XVIII.

70. ‘We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake ;

‘Before whom Verethraghna, made by Ahura, runs opposing the foes in the shape of a boar², a sharp-toothed he-boar, a sharp-jawed boar, that kills at one stroke, pursuing³, wrathful, with a dripping face; strong, with iron feet, iron fore-paws⁴, iron weapons, an iron tail, and iron jaws ;

71. ‘Who, eagerly clinging to the fleeing foe, along with Manly Courage, smites the foe in battle, and does not think he has smitten him, nor does he consider it a blow till he has smitten away the marrow⁵ and the column of life⁶, the marrow⁵ and the spring of existence.

72. ‘He cuts all the limbs to pieces, and mingles, together with the earth, the bones, hair, brains, and blood of the men who have lied unto Mithra⁷.

‘For his brightness and glory, we offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ Cf. § 98.

² See Yt. XIV, 15; cf. Yt. X, 127.

³ Anupôithwa; cf. pôithwa (Vend. XIV [114])=rânînisn.

⁴ Literally, hands.

⁵ Doubtful.

⁶ The spine.

⁷ Cf. § 80.

XIX.

73. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures,
sleepless, and ever awake ;

'Who, with hands lifted up, rejoicing, cries out,
speaking thus :

74. "'O Ahura Mazda, most beneficent spirit !
Maker of the material world, thou Holy One !

"If men would worship me¹ with a sacrifice in
which I were invoked by my own name, as they
worship the other gods with sacrifices in which they
are invoked by their own names, then I should
come to the faithful at the appointed time ; I should
come in the appointed time of my beautiful, im-
mortal life²."

75. 'May we keep our field ; may we never be
exiles³ from our field, exiles from our house, exiles
from our borough, exiles from our town, exiles from
our country.

76. 'Thou dashest in pieces the malice of the
malicious, the malice of the men of malice : dash
thou in pieces the killers of faithful men !

'Thou hast good horses, thou hast a good
chariot : thou art bringing help at every appeal, and
art powerful.

77. 'I will pray unto thee for help, with many
consecrations, with good consecrations of libations ;
with many offerings, with good offerings of libations,
that we, abiding in thee, may long inhabit a good
abode, full of all the riches that can be wished for.

¹ They have worshipped him and he has consequently over-
come the Mithradrugēs ; this accounts for the word rejoicing.

² Cf. Yt. X, 55.

³ Iric ; cf. linquo.

78. 'Thou keepest those nations that tender a good worship to Mithra, the lord of wide pastures; thou dashest in pieces those that delight in havoc. Unto thee will I pray for help: may he come to us for help, the awful, most powerful Mithra, the worshipful and praiseworthy, the glorious lord of nations.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XX.

79. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'Who made a dwelling for Rashnu¹, and to whom Rashnu gave all his soul for long friendship;

80. 'Thou art a keeper and protector of the dwelling of those who lie not: thou art the maintainer of those who lie not. With thee hath Verethraghna, made by Ahura, contracted the best of all friendships², and thus it is how so many men who have lied unto Mithra, even privily³, lie smitten down on the ground.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXI.

81. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'Who made a dwelling for Rashnu, and to whom Rashnu gave all his soul for long friendship;

82. 'To whom Ahura Mazda gave a thousand

¹ The Genius of Truth (Yt. XII); Mithra gives a dwelling to the truthful man in the same way as he destroys the dwelling of the liar (§ 80).

² Cf. § 70.

³ Aipi vithisi; Vedic api vyathis (VIII, 45, 19).

senses¹ and ten thousand eyes to see. With those eyes and those senses, he watches the man who injures Mithra, the man who lies unto Mithra. Through those eyes and those senses, he is undeceivable, he, of the ten thousand spies, the powerful, all-knowing, undeceivable god.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXII.

83. ‘We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake ;

‘Whom the lord of the country invokes for help, with hands uplifted ;

‘Whom the lord of the town invokes for help, with hands uplifted ;

84. ‘Whom the lord of the borough invokes for help, with hands uplifted ;

‘Whom the master of the house invokes for help, with hands uplifted ;

‘Whom the² in danger of death³ invokes for help, with hands uplifted ;

‘Whom the poor man, who follows the good law, when wronged and deprived of his rights, invokes for help, with hands uplifted.

85. ‘The voice of his wailing reaches up to the sky, it goes over the earth all around, it goes over

¹ Yaokhsti, the root of Persian *nyôstîdan*, Pahlavi *niyôkhsîtan*, to hear; one might be inclined to translate ‘a thousand ears,’ or ‘a thousand hearings;’ but the meaning of the word must have been rather more general, as Neriosengh translates it (*pranidhi*, IX, 8 [25]).

² *Dvâkîna?*

³ *Pithê: mrityu* (*Yasna* LIII [LII], 6).

the seven Karshvares, whether he utters his prayer in a low tone of voice¹ or aloud.

86. 'The cow driven astray invokes him for help², longing for the stables:

' "When will that bull, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, bring us back, and make us reach the stables? when will he turn us back to the right way from the den of the Drug where we were driven³?"

87. 'And to him with whom Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, has been satisfied, he comes with help; and of him with whom Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, has been offended, he crushes down the house, the borough, the town, the province, the country.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXIII.

88. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'To whom the enlivening, healing, fair, lordly, golden-eyed Haoma offered up a sacrifice on the highest of the heights, on the Haraiti Bareza⁴, he

¹ *Vâkem*, the so-called *vâg*.

² Most manuscripts have added here, from the preceding clauses, 'with hands uplifted!'

³ An allusion to a myth in which Mithra was described as an Indra delivering the cows carried away by a *Vrîtra*: Firmicus Maternus called him *abactorem boum* (*De Errore Profan. Relig. V*); *Commodianus* compares him with *Cacus*:

'*Vrtebatque boves alienos semper in antris
Sicut et Cacus Vulcani filius ille.*'

(*Apud Windischmann, Mithra, p. 64.*)

⁴ See above, p. 132, note 2.

the undefiled to one undefiled, with undefiled baresma, undefiled libations, and undefiled words;

89. 'Whom¹ the holy Ahura Mazda has established as a priest, quick in performing the sacrifice and loud in song. He performed the sacrifice with a loud voice, as a priest quick in sacrifice and loud in song, a priest to Ahura Mazda, a priest to the Amesha-Spentas. His voice reached up to the sky, went over the earth all around, went over the seven Karshvares.

90. 'Who first lifted up Haomas, in a mortar inlaid with stars and made of a heavenly substance. Ahura Mazda longed for him, the Amesha-Spentas longed for him, for the well-shapen body of him whom the swift-horsed sun awakes for prayer from afar².

91. 'Hail to Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, who has a thousand ears and ten thousand eyes! Thou art worthy of sacrifice and prayer: mayest thou have sacrifice and prayer in the houses of men! Hail to the man who shall offer thee a sacrifice, with the holy wood in his hand, the baresma in his hand, the holy meat in his hand, the holy mortar in his hand³, with his hands well-washed, with the mortar well-washed, with the bundles of baresma tied up, the Haoma uplifted, and the Ahuna Vairya sung through.

92. 'The holy Ahura Mazda confessed that religion and so did Vohu-Manô, so did Asha-Vahista, so did Khshathra-Vairya, so did Spenta-Ârmaiti, so

¹ Haoma; cf. Yasna IX, 26 [81].

² For the morning service in the Gâh Usahîn.

³ Cf. Vend. III, 1.

did Haurvatât and Ameretât; and all the Amesha-Spentas longed for and confessed his religion. The kind Mazda conferred upon him the mastership of the world; and [so did they¹] who saw thee amongst all creatures the right lord and master of the world, the best cleanser of these creatures.

93. 'So mayest thou in both worlds, mayest thou keep us in both worlds, O Mithra, lord of wide pastures! both in this material world and in the world of the spirit, from the fiend of Death, from the fiend Aêshma², from the fiendish hordes, that lift up the spear of havoc, and from the onsets of Aêshma, wherein the evil-doing Aêshma rushes along with Vidôtu³, made by the Daêvas.

94. 'So mayest thou, O Mithra, lord of wide pastures! give swiftness to our teams, strength to our own bodies, and that we may watch with full success those who hate us, smite down our foes, and destroy at one stroke our adversaries, our enemies and those who hate us⁴.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXIV.

95. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'Who goes over the earth, all her breadth over, after the setting of the sun⁵, touches both ends of

¹ The Amesha-Spentas.

² See Vend. Introd. IV, 22.

³ See *ibid.*

⁴ See Yt. V, 53; X, 11, 114; V, 53.

⁵ It should seem as if Mithra was supposed to retrace his steps during the night. The Hindus supposed that the sun had a bright face and a dark one, and that during the night it returned from the west to the east with its dark face turned towards the earth.

this wide, round earth, whose ends lie afar, and surveys everything that is between the earth and the heavens,

96. 'Swinging in his hands a club with a hundred knots, a hundred edges, that rushes forwards and fells men down; a club cast out of red brass, of strong, golden brass; the strongest of all weapons, the most victorious of all weapons¹;

97. 'From whom Angra Mainyu, who is all death, flees away in fear; from whom Aêshma, the evil-doing Peshôtanu², flees away in fear; from whom the long-handed Bûshyâsta³ flees away in fear; from whom all the Daêvas unseen and the Varenya fiends flee away in fear⁴.

98. 'Oh! may we never fall across the rush of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, when in anger⁵! May Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, never smite us in his anger; he who stands up upon this earth as the strongest of all gods, the most valiant of all gods, the most energetic of all gods, the swiftest of all gods, the most fiend-smiting of all gods, he, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures⁶.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXV.

99. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'From whom all the Daêvas unseen and the Varenya fiends flee away in fear⁷.

¹ Cf. § 132.

³ See *ibid.* IV, 24.

⁵ Cf. Yt. X, 69.

⁷ Cf. § 97.

² See Vend. *Introd.* V, 19.

⁴ Cf. § 69.

⁶ §§ 97-98 = §§ 134-135.

‘The lord of nations, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, drives forward at the right-hand side of this wide, round earth, whose ends lie afar.

100. ‘At his right hand drives the good, holy Sraosha; at his left hand drives the tall and strong Rashnu; on all sides around him drive the waters, the plants, and the Fravashis of the faithful.

101. ‘In his might, he ever brings to them falcon-feathered arrows, and, when driving, he himself comes there, where are nations, enemy to Mithra, he, first and foremost, strikes blows with his club on the horse and his rider; he throws fear and fright upon the horse and his rider.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXVI.

102. ‘We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

‘The warrior of the white horse, of the sharp spear, the long spear, the quick arrows; foreseeing and clever;

103. ‘Whom Ahura Mazda has established to maintain and look over all this moving¹ world, and who maintains and looks over all this moving world; who, never sleeping, wakefully guards the creation of Mazda; who, never sleeping, wakefully maintains the creation of Mazda.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ Fravôis; Parsi tradition translates large: frâz (tr. Phl.), buland (Asp., Yasna LVII, 15 [LVI, 7, 3]).

XXVII.

104. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures,
sleepless, and ever awake ;

'Whose long arms, strong with Mithra-strength,
encompass what he seizes in the easternmost river ¹
and what he beats with the westernmost river ²,
what is by the Sanaka ³ of the Rangha and what is
by the boundary of the earth ⁴.

105. 'And thou, O Mithra! encompassing all this
around, do thou reach it, all over, with thy arms.

'The man without glory ⁵, led astray from the
right way, grieves in his heart ; the man without
glory thinks thus in himself : " That careless Mithra
does not see all the evil that is done, nor all the lies
that are told."

106. 'But I think thus in my heart :

"Should the evil thoughts of the earthly man be
a hundred times worse, they would not rise so high
as the good thoughts of the heavenly Mithra ;

"Should the evil words of the earthly man be a
hundred times worse, they would not rise so high as
the good words of the heavenly Mithra ;

¹ The Sind.

² The Rangha or Tigris. The words *âgeurvayêiti* and *nighnê*, 'he seizes, he beats,' are the words used of the priest laying the Haoma in the mortar and pounding it with the pestle (Yasna, X, 2 [4-5]). The Sind and the Rangha are thus compared with the two parts of the Hâvana, the land between is the Haoma, and Mithra's arms are the arms of the priest.

³ Sanakê, an *ἀπαξ λεγόμενον* ; opposed to the *aodhas* of the Rangha, Yt. XII, 19.

⁴ The Arabian sea (?). Cf. Yt. XII, 21.

⁵ Who has not a ray of the celestial light : here, the man of little faith.

“Should the evil deeds of the earthly man be a hundred times worse, they would not rise so high as the good deeds of the heavenly Mithra ;

107. “Should the heavenly wisdom¹ in the earthly man be a hundred times greater, it would not rise so high as the heavenly wisdom in the heavenly Mithra ;

“And thus, should the ears of the earthly man hear a hundred times better, he would not hear so well as the heavenly Mithra, whose ear hears well, who has a thousand senses, and sees every man that tells a lie.”

‘Mithra stands up in his strength, he drives in the awfulness of royalty, and sends from his eyes beautiful looks that shine from afar, (saying) :

108. “Who will offer me a sacrifice? Who will lie unto me? Who thinks me a god worthy of a good sacrifice? Who thinks me worthy only of a bad sacrifice? To whom shall I, in my might, impart brightness and glory? To whom bodily health? To whom shall I, in my might, impart riches and full weal? Whom shall I bless by raising him a virtuous² offspring?

109. “To whom shall I give in return, without his thinking of it, the awful sovereignty, beautifully arrayed, with many armies, and most perfect; the sovereignty of an all-powerful tyrant, who fells down heads, valiant, smiting, and unsmitten; who orders chastisement to be done and his order is done at once, which he has ordered in his anger?”

‘O Mithra! when thou art offended and not satisfied, he³ soothes thy mind, and makes Mithra satisfied.

¹ See above, p. 4, n. 5.

² Âsna : Sansk. susila (p. 34, n. 4).

³ He who offers thee a good sacrifice; cf. § 108.

110. "To whom shall I, in my might, impart sickness and death? To whom shall I impart poverty and sterility¹? Of whom shall I at one stroke cut off the offspring?"

111. "From whom shall I take away, without his thinking of it, the awful sovereignty, beautifully arrayed, with many armies, and most perfect; the sovereignty of an all-powerful tyrant, who fells down heads, valiant, smiting, and unsmitten; who orders chastisement to be done and his order is done at once, which he has ordered in his anger."

'O Mithra! while thou art satisfied and not angry, he moves thy heart to anger², and makes Mithra unsatisfied.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXVIII.

112. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'A warrior with a silver helm³, a golden cuirass³, who kills with the poniard, strong, valiant, lord of the borough. Bright are the ways of Mithra, by which he goes towards the country, when, wishing well, he turns its plains and vales to pasture grounds,

113. 'And then cattle and males come to graze, as many as he wants.

'May Mithra and Ahura⁴, the high gods, come to us for help, when the poniard lifts up its voice

¹ Doubtful.

² He who offers thee a bad sacrifice.

³ Doubtful.

⁴ See Vend. Introd. IV, 8.

aloud¹, when the nostrils of the horses quiver, when the poniards², when the strings of the bows whistle and shoot sharp arrows; then the brood of those whose libations are hated fall smitten to the ground, with their hair torn off.

114. 'So mayest thou, O Mithra, lord of wide pastures! give swiftness to our teams, strength to our own bodies, and that we may watch with full success those who hate us, smite down our foes, and destroy at one stroke our adversaries, our enemies, and those who hate us³.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXIX.

115. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake.

'O Mithra, lord of wide pastures! thou master of the house, of the borough, of the town, of the country, thou Zarathustrôtema⁴!

116. 'Mithra is twentyfold⁵ between two friends or two relations;

'Mithra is thirtyfold between two men of the same group⁶;

'Mithra is fortyfold between two partners⁷;

¹ When it clashes with another.

² Kahvân.

³ See Yt. V, 53; X, 11, 94.

⁴ The chief of the sacerdotal order, the so-called Maubedân-maused.

⁵ Or 'the contract is twentyfold,' that is, twenty times more strictly binding than between any two strangers. This passage is one of the most important of the Avesta, as a short account of the social constitution and morals of Zoroastrian Iran.

⁶ Of the same gild (svapañkti, ap. Neriosengh).

⁷ Hadha-gaêtha, co-proprietors of a gaêtha (a rural estate).

‘Mithra is fiftyfold between wife and husband¹;

‘Mithra is sixtyfold between two pupils (of the same master);

‘Mithra is seventyfold between the pupil and his master;

‘Mithra is eightyfold between the son-in-law and his father-in-law;

‘Mithra is ninetyfold between two brothers;

117. ‘Mithra is a hundredfold between the father and the son;

‘Mithra is a thousandfold between two nations²;

‘Mithra is ten thousandfold when connected with the Law of Mazda³, and then he will be every day⁴ of victorious strength⁵.

118. ‘May I come unto thee with a prayer that goes lowly or goes highly! As this sun rises up above the Hara Berezaiti and then fulfils its career, so may I, O Spitama! with a prayer that goes lowly or goes highly, rise up above the will of the fiend Angra Mainyu⁶!

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXX.

119. ‘We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake.

‘Offer up a sacrifice unto Mithra, O Spitama! and order thy pupils to do the same.

¹ Doubtful.

² A fair recognition of the *jus gentium*.

³ The contract between the faithful and the Law, the covenant (?).

⁴ Reading [h]amahê ayān.

⁵ The last clause is doubtful; the text is corrupt.

⁶ Prayer follows Mithra in his career, rising and setting with him.

'Let the worshipper of Mazda sacrifice unto thee¹ with small cattle, with black cattle, with flying birds, gliding forward on wings.

120. 'To Mithra all the faithful worshippers of Mazda must give strength and energy with offered and proffered Haomas, which the Zaotar proffers unto him and gives in sacrifice². Let the faithful man drink of the libations cleanly prepared, which if he does, if he offers them unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, Mithra will be pleased with him and without anger.'

121. Zarathustra asked him: 'O Ahura Mazda! how shall the faithful man drink the libations cleanly prepared, which if he does and he offers them unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, Mithra will be pleased with him and without anger?'

122. Ahura Mazda answered: 'Let them wash their bodies three days and three nights; let them undergo thirty strokes³ for the sacrifice and prayer unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures. Let them wash their bodies two days and two nights; let them undergo twenty strokes for the sacrifice and prayer unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures. Let no

¹ Mithra.

² The translation of this sentence is conjectural.

³ Thirty strokes with the Sraoshô-karana (upâzana; see Vend. Introd. V, 19); it is an expiation (âkayayanta) which purges them from their sins and makes them fit for offering a sacrifice to Mithra. One may find in this passage the origin of the painful trials through which the adepts of the Mithriac mysteries had to go before being admitted to initiation (οὐκ ἂν οὖν εἰς αὐτὸν δυνήσαιτό τις τελεσθῆναι, εἰ μὴ διὰ τινων βαθμῶν παρελθὼν τῶν κολάσεων δείξει ἑαυτὸν ὄσιον καὶ ἀπαθῆ, Suidas s. v., ap. Windischmann, über Mithra, 68 seq.).

man drink of these libations who does not know the staota yêsnya¹: Vîspê ratavô².

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXXI.

123. ‘We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

‘To whom Ahura Mazda offered up a sacrifice in the shining Garô-nmâna³.

124. ‘With his arms lifted up towards Immortality⁴, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, drives forward from the shining Garô-nmâna, in a beautiful chariot that drives on, ever-swift, adorned with all sorts of ornaments, and made of gold.

125. ‘Four stallions draw that chariot, all of the same white colour, living on heavenly food⁵ and undying. The hoofs of their fore-feet are shod with gold, the hoofs of their hind-feet are shod with silver; all are yoked to the same pole, and wear the yoke⁶ and the cross-beams of the yoke⁶, fastened with hooks⁶ of Khshathra vairya⁷ to a beautiful⁸

126. ‘At his right hand drives Rashnu-Razista⁹, the most beneficent and most well-shapen.

¹ The sutûd yêst; the last chapters of the Yasna, from LVIII [LVII] to end, according to Anquetil (Zend-Avesta I, 2, 232).

² The first words of the Vîspêrad.

³ Paradise.

⁴ Towards the abode of the Immortals.

⁵ Fed with ambrosia (ἀμβρόσιον εἶδαρ) like Poseidon’s steeds (Il. XIII, 35; cf. Ovid, Metam. IV, 214).

⁶ Doubtful (simãmka simôithrãmka).

⁷ Metal. See Vend. Introd. IV, 33.

⁸ Upairispâta.

⁹ See Yt. XII.

'At his left hand drives the most upright *Kîsta*¹, the holy one, bearing libations in her hands, clothed with white clothes, and white herself; and the cursing thought² of the Law of Mazda.

127. 'Close by him drives the strong cursing thought² of the wise man, opposing foes in the shape of a boar, a sharp-toothed he-boar, a sharp-jawed boar, that kills at one stroke, pursuing, wrathful, with a dripping face³, strong and swift to run, and rushing all around⁴.

'Behind him drives *Âtar*⁵, all in a blaze, and the awful kingly Glory.

128. 'On a side of the chariot of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, stand a thousand bows well-made, with a string of cowgut; they go through the heavenly space⁶, they fall through the heavenly space upon the skulls of the *Daêvas*.

129. 'On a side of the chariot of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, stand a thousand vulture-feathered arrows, with a golden mouth⁷, with a horn shaft, with a brass tail, and well-made. They go through the heavenly space, they fall through the heavenly space upon the skulls of the *Daêvas*.

130. 'On a side of the chariot of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, stand a thousand spears well-made and sharp-piercing. They go through the heavenly space, they fall through the heavenly space upon the skulls of the *Daêvas*.

'On a side of the chariot of Mithra, the lord of

¹ See Yt. XVI. ² See above, p. 12, note 13. ³ Cf. Yt. X, 70.

⁴ Or better, rushing before (*pâiri-vâza*; cf. the translations of *pairi-daḥvyu*, Yt. X, 144 and *pairi-vâra*, Yt. I, 19). Cf. Yt. XIV, 15.

⁵ The Genius of Fire. ⁶ See p. 95, note 1. ⁷ A golden point.

wide pastures, stand a thousand steel-hammers, two-edged, well-made. They go through the heavenly space, they fall through the heavenly space upon the skulls of the Daêvas.

131. 'On a side of the chariot of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, stand a thousand swords, two-edged and well-made. They go through the heavenly space, they fall through the heavenly space upon the skulls of the Daêvas.

'On a side of the chariot of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, stand a thousand maces of iron, well-made. They go through the heavenly space, they fall through the heavenly space upon the skulls of the Daêvas.

132. 'On a side of the chariot of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, stands a beautiful well-falling club, with a hundred knots, a hundred edges, that rushes forward and fells men down; a club cast out of red brass, of strong, golden brass; the strongest of all weapons, the most victorious of all weapons¹. It goes through the heavenly space², it falls through the heavenly space upon the skulls of the Daêvas.

133. 'After he has smitten the Daêvas, after he has smitten down the men who lied unto Mithra, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, drives forward through Arezahê and Savahê, through Fradadhafshu and Vîdadhafshu, through Vourubaresti and Vourugaresti, through this our Karshvare, the bright *Hvaniratha*³.

134. 'Angra Mainyu, who is all death, flees away in fear; Aêshma, the evil-doing Peshotanu, flees

¹ Cf. Yt. X, 96.

² The text has, they go

³ See above, p. 123, note 5.

away in fear; the long-handed Bûshyâsta flees away in fear; all the Daêvas unseen and the Varenya fiends flee away in fear.

135. 'Oh! may we never fall across the rush of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, when in anger! May Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, never smite us in his anger; he who stands up upon this earth as the strongest of all gods, the most valiant of all gods, the most energetic of all gods, the swiftest of all gods, the most fiend-smiting of all gods, he, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures¹.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXXII.

136. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake;

'For whom white stallions, yoked to his chariot, draw it, on one golden wheel, with a full shining axle.

137. 'If Mithra takes his libations to his own dwelling², "Happy that man, I think,"—said Ahura Mazda,—“O holy Zarathustra! for whom a holy priest, as pious as any in the world³, who is the Word incarnate, offers up a sacrifice unto Mithra with bundles of baresma and with the [proper] words.

“Straight to that man, I think, will Mithra come, to visit his dwelling,

138. “When Mithra's boons will come to him, as he follows God's teaching, and thinks according to God's teaching.

“Woe to that man, I think,”—said Ahura Mazda,—

¹ §§ 134-135=§§ 97-98.

² Cf. Yt. X, 32.

³ Doubtful. Possibly, 'of a pious conscience.'

“O holy Zarathustra! for whom an unholy priest, not pious¹, who is not the Word incarnate, stands behind the baresma, however full may be the bundles of baresma he ties, however long may be the sacrifice he performs.”

139. ‘He does not delight Ahura Mazda, nor the other Amesha-Spentas, nor Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, he who thus scorns Mazda, and the other Amesha-Spentas, and Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, and the Law, and Rashnu, and Arstât, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXXIII.

140. ‘We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, sleepless, and ever awake.

‘I will offer up a sacrifice unto the good Mithra, O Spitama! unto the strong, heavenly god, who is foremost, highly merciful, and peerless; whose house is above², a stout and strong warrior;

141. ‘Victorious and armed with a well-fashioned weapon, watchful in darkness and undeceivable. He is the stoutest of the stoutest, he is the strongest of the strongest, he is the most intelligent of the gods, he is victorious and endowed with Glory: he, of the ten thousand eyes, of the ten thousand spies, the powerful, all-knowing, undeceivable god.

‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ An unqualified priest; cf. Vend. IX, 47-57; XVIII, 1 seq.

² Or, ‘whose house is great.’

XXXIV.

142. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures,
sleepless, and ever awake;

'Who, with his manifold knowledge, powerfully
increases the creation of Spenta Mainyu, and is a
well-created and most great Yazata, self-shining like
the moon, when he makes his own body shine;

143. 'Whose face is flashing with light like the
face of the star Tistrya¹; whose chariot is embraced
by that goddess who is foremost amongst those who
have no deceit in them², O Spitama! who is fairer
than any creature in the world, and full of light to
shine. I will worship that chariot, wrought by the
Maker, Ahura Mazda, inlaid with stars and made of
a heavenly substance; (the chariot) of Mithra, who
has ten thousand spies, the powerful, all-knowing,
undeceivable god.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer him a sacrifice worth
being heard

XXXV.

144. 'We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide
pastures, who is truth-speaking, a chief in assemblies,
with a thousand ears, well-shapen, with a thousand
eyes, high, with full knowledge, strong, sleepless, and
ever awake.

'We sacrifice unto the Mithra around countries³;

'We sacrifice unto the Mithra within countries;

¹ See Yt. VIII.

² Ashi Vanguhi (?); cf. § 68.

³ Who watches around countries: *aiwida/zyûm* is translated
مهرا پیرامون شهرها (Pers. tr. of Mihir Nyâyis).

- ‘ We sacrifice unto the Mithra in this country ¹;
 ‘ We sacrifice unto the Mithra above countries;
 ‘ We sacrifice unto the Mithra under countries;
 ‘ We sacrifice unto the Mithra before countries ²;
 ‘ We sacrifice unto the Mithra behind countries.

145. ‘ We sacrifice unto Mithra and Ahura, the two great, imperishable, holy gods ³; and unto the stars, and the moon, and the sun, with the trees that yield up baresma ⁴. We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of all countries.

‘ For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard, namely, unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures.

‘ Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

‘ I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, who has a thousand ears, ten thousand eyes, a Yazata invoked by his own name; and that of Râma *Hvâstra* ⁵.

‘ Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

‘ [Give] unto that man ⁶ brightness and glory, . . . give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones!’

¹ *Âdahvyûm*: مهر که در این شهر است; cf. Yasna XXVI, 9 [28].

² *Pairidahvyûm*: که پیش هر شهر است.

³ Cf. Vend. Introd. IV, 8.

⁴ Cf. Vend. p. 22, note 2.

⁵ Cf. Sîrôzah I, 16.

⁶ Who sacrifices to Mithra.

XI. SRÔSH YAST HÂDHÔKHT.

There are two Yasts dedicated to Sraosha, the angel of divine worship¹: one is a part of the Yasna (LVII [LVI]), and this, the other, is called the Srôsh Yast Hâdhôkht. Whether it belonged to the so-called Hâdhôkht Nosk², one of the twenty-one Nosks of which the original Avesta was formed³, or whether it was recited in the Hadhôkht sacrifice⁴, a particular liturgy, is a matter on which we have no sufficient information.

The two Yasts have a few developments in common (see §§ 8-9, 10-13): the Hâdhôkht is more liturgical, the Yasna Yast is more descriptive, and has to a greater degree the poetical imagery of a Yast.

The Srôsh Yast Hâdhôkht is recited every day, during any gâh except the Rapitvîn. A Pahlavi translation of this Yast is extant (East India Office, XII, 102; Paris, Supplément Persan, XXXIII, 259; edited in *Études Iraniennes*, II), and Anquetil mentions a Sanskrit translation.

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness

Unto the holy, strong Sraosha, who is the incarnate Word, a mighty-speared and lordly god,

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

¹ Cf. Vend. Introd. IV, 31.

² Ibid. III, 3.

³ See an account of the Hâdhôkht Nosk in the *Dînkart* (West, Pahlavi Texts, I, 225, note); cf. Introd. to Yt. XXI.

⁴ Cf. § 18, note.

I.

1. We sacrifice unto the holy, tall-formed, fiend-smiting Sraosha, who makes the world increase, the holy and master of holiness.

Good prayer, excellent prayer to the worlds¹, O Zarathustra!

2. This it is that takes away the friendship of the fiend and fiends, of the he-fiend and of the she-fiend; it turns away in giddiness their eyes, minds, ears², hands, feet, mouths, and tongues³; as good prayer, without deceit and without harm, is Manly Courage⁴, and turns away the Drug⁵.

3. The holy Sraosha, the best protector of the poor, is fiend-smiting; he is the best smiter of the Drug.

The faithful one who pronounces most words of blessing is the most victorious in victory; the Mâthra *Spenta* takes best the unseen Drug away. The Ahuna Vairya⁶ is the best fiend-smiter among all spells; the word of truth is the fighter⁷ that is the best of all fiend-smiters.

The Law of the worshippers of Mazda is the truest giver of all the good things, of all those that are the offspring of the good principle; and so is the Law of Zarathustra.

4. And he who should pronounce that word⁸, O Zarathustra! either a man or a woman, with a mind all intent on holiness, with words all intent on

¹ 'Has been taught to the world, namely, the Law' (Pahl. Comm.).

² Doubtful. ³ *Derezvâ*; Pahl. *hûzvân*; cf. Yt. I, 28.

⁴ Is the same with it, is as powerful.

⁵ Doubtful (*vârethrem dârestâ zak drûg vartî dâstârtûm*).

⁶ See p. 23.

⁷ Or, 'is the best of all fiend-smiters in battle.'

⁸ This chapter (Pahl. Comm.).

holiness, with deeds all intent on holiness, when he is in fear either of high waters or of the darkness of a rainy night ;

Or at the fords of a river, or at the branching-off of roads ;

Or in the meeting together of the faithful, or the rushing together of the worshippers of the Daêvas¹ ;

5. Whether on the road² or in the law³ he has to fear, not in that day nor in that night shall the tormenting fiend, who wants to torment him, prevail to throw upon him the look of his evil eye, and the malice of the thief⁴ who carries off cattle shall not reach him.

6. Pronounce then that word, O Zarathustra ! that word to be spoken⁵, when thou fall upon the idolaters⁶ and thieves and Daêvas rushing together. Then the malice of the wicked worshippers of the Daêvas, of the Yâtus and their followers, of the Pairikas and their followers, will be affrighted and rush away. Down are the Daêvas ! Down are the Daêva-worshippers, and they take back their mouths from biting⁷.

¹ Different words are used, as usual, to express the same conflict, according as it refers to the faithful or to the idolaters.

² Aipi-ayanâm : madam râs.

³ Arethyanâm : dâdistân (from aretha, meaning dînâ, dâdistân).

⁴ Gadha : *nrisamsa* (Neriosengh) ; the Pahlavi has 𐬔𐬀, a Saka, a Scythe.

⁵ The praise of Sraosha.

⁶ *Keresasâ* : krasîâk ; cf. Neriosengh ad Yasna IX, 24 [75] ; that name was in the later periods applied to Christians, as if *keresa* were the name of Christ ; cf. Bahman Yast II, 19 ; III, 2.

⁷ Doubtful.

7. And therefore we take around us the holy-natured Sraosha, the holy, the fiend-smiter, as one does with shepherds' dogs; therefore we sacrifice unto the holy-natured Sraosha, the holy, the fiend-smiter, with good thoughts, good words, and good deeds.

8¹. For his brightness and glory, for his strength and victorious power, for his offering sacrifices unto the gods², I will offer him a sacrifice worth being heard. I will offer up libations unto the holy Sraosha, unto the great Ashi Vanguhi³, and unto Nairyô-sangha⁴, the tall-formed.

So may the holy Sraosha, the fiend-smiter, come to us for help!

9. We worship the holy Sraosha; we worship the great master, Ahura Mazda, who is supreme in holiness, who is the foremost to do deeds of holiness.

We worship all the words⁵ of Zarathustra, and all the good deeds, those done and those to be done.

Yêzhê hâtām: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda . . .

II.

10⁶. We sacrifice unto the holy, tall-formed, fiend-smiting Sraosha, who makes the world increase, the holy and master of holiness;

Who strikes the evil-doing⁷ man, who strikes the evil-doing woman; who smites the fiendish

¹ §§ 8-9 = Yasna LVII, 3-4 [LVI, 1, 6-12].

² See Vend. Introd. IV, 31.

³ See Yt. XVII.

⁴ See Vend. XXII, 7 [22] and Sîrôzah I, 9.

⁵ The words of the law.

⁶ §§ 10-13 = Yasna LVII, 15-18 [LVI, 7].

⁷ Cf. Yt. I, 19.

Drug, and is most strong and world-destroying; who maintains and looks over all this moving¹ world;

11. Who, never sleeping, wakefully guards the creation of Mazda; who, never sleeping, wakefully maintains the creation of Mazda; who protects all the material world with his club uplifted, from the hour when the sun is down;

12. Who never more did enjoy sleep from the time when the two Spirits made the world, namely, the good Spirit and the evil One; who every day, every night, fights with the Mâzainya Daêvas.

13. He bows not for fear and fright before the Daêvas: before him all the Daêvas bow for fear and fright reluctantly, and rush away to darkness².

For his brightness and glory, for his strength and victorious power³

III.

14. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

We sacrifice unto the holy, tall-formed, fiend-smiting Sraosha, who makes the world increase, the holy and master of holiness;

Who with peace and friendship⁴ watches the Drug and the most beneficent Spirit: so that the Amesha-Speztas may go along the seven Karshvares of the earth⁵; who is the teacher of the

¹ Cf. above, p. 145, note 1.

² To hell.

³ As above, §§ 8-9.

⁴ To the creation of Ormazd.

⁵ Doubtful. The Yasna has: 'Through whose strength, victorious power, wisdom, and knowledge the Amesha-Speztas go (avân; Phl. sâtûnand) along the seven Karshvares of the earth' (LVII, 23 [LVI, 10, 2]).

Law¹: he himself was taught it by Ahura Mazda, the holy One.

For his brightness and glory, for his strength and victorious power

IV.

15. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

We sacrifice unto the holy, tall-formed, fiend-smiting Sraosha, who makes the world increase, the holy and master of holiness ;

Whom the holy Ahura Mazda has created to withstand Aêshma, the fiend of the wounding spear ; we sacrifice unto Peace, whose breath is friendly, and unto the two withstanders of sin and guilt²,

16. The friends of the holy Sraosha ;

The friends of Rashnu Razista³ ;

The friends of the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda ;

The friends of Arstât⁴, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase, who makes the world prosper ;

The friends of Ashi Vanguhi⁵ ;

The friends of the good Kisti⁶ ;

The friends of the most right Kista⁷ ;

¹ He teaches the law to the three saviours to come, Oshêdar Bâmf, Oshêdar Mâh, and Soshyôs (Yasna LVII, 24 [LVI, 10, 2] ; Phl. tr.).

² Parestas̄ka mravaydos̄ka, to be corrected, according to various readings, into staretas̄ka mavaydos̄ka or something like it ; the two genii here alluded to are Anâstareta and Amuyamna, Sinlessness and Innocence, who are invoked in company with Akhsti hamvaiñti in Vispêrad VIII, 4.

³ See Yt. XII.

⁴ See Yt. XVII.

⁵ See Vend. XIX, 39.

⁶ See *ibid.*

⁷ See Yt. XVI, 1.

17. The friends of all gods ;
 The friends of the Mâthra Spenta ;
 The friends of the fiend-destroying Law ;
 The friends of the long-traditional teaching ;
 The friends of the Amesha-Spentas ;
 The friends of ourselves, the Saoshyants¹, the
 two-footed part of the holy creation ;
 The friends of all the beings of the holy world.

For his brightness and glory, for his strength and victorious power

V.

18. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

We sacrifice unto the holy, tall-formed, fiend-smiting Sraosha, who makes the world increase, the holy and master of holiness ;

The first [Sraosha], the next, the middle, and the highest ; with the first sacrifice, with the next, with the middle, and with the highest². We sacrifice unto all [the moments]³ of the holy and strong Sraosha, who is the incarnate Word ;

19. The strong Sraosha, of the manly courage, the warrior of the strong arms, who breaks the skulls of the Daêvas ; who smites with heavy blows⁴ and is strong to smite ; the holy Sraosha, who smites

¹ The faithful, as helping through their good deeds in the work of final restoration, to be performed by Saoshyant (cf. Yt. XIII, 17).

² The first sacrifice is the Yasna sacrifice ; the next (literally, superior) is the Vispêrad ; the middle sacrifice is the Hâdhôkht [and] êvak hômâst ; the highest sacrifice is the Dvâzda hômâst (Pahl. Comm.). Sraosha is called the first, next, middle, and highest, accordingly as he presides over one or the other of those sacrifices. For a definition of the êvak hômâst and Dvâzda hômâst, see West, Pahlavi Texts, I, 212, note 5.

³ Vîspân, translated harvisp zamân.

⁴ Literally, the smiter who smites with smittings.

with heavy blows; we sacrifice unto the crushing Ascendant of both the holy Sraosha and Arsti¹.

20. We sacrifice for all the houses protected by Sraosha, where the holy Sraosha is dear and friendly treated and satisfied, as well as the faithful man², rich in good thoughts, rich in good words, rich in good deeds.

21. We sacrifice unto the body of the holy Sraosha;

We sacrifice unto the body of Rashnu Razista;

We sacrifice unto the body of Mithra, the lord of wide pastures;

We sacrifice unto the body of the holy wind;

We sacrifice unto the body of the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda;

We sacrifice unto the body of Arstât, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase, who makes the world prosper;

We sacrifice unto the body of Ashi Vanguhi;

We sacrifice unto the body of the good Kîsti;

We sacrifice unto the body of the most right Kîsta;

We sacrifice unto the bodies of all the gods;

22. We sacrifice unto the body of the Mâthra Spenta;

We sacrifice unto the body of the fiend-destroying Law;

We sacrifice unto the body of the long-traditional teaching;

We sacrifice unto the bodies of the Ameshaspen-tas;

¹ The same as Arstât. Cf. Yasna LVII, 34-35 [LVI, 13, 3-7].

² He receives alms (the ashô-dâd).

We sacrifice unto the bodies of ourselves, the Saoshyants, the two-footed part of the holy creation ;

We sacrifice unto the bodies of all the beings of the holy world ¹.

For his brightness and glory, for his strength and victorious power

23. Yathâ ahû vairyo: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, the strength and vigour of the holy, strong Sraosha, who is the incarnate Word, a mighty-speared and lordly god.

[Give] unto that man ² brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones!

¹ Cf. §§ 16-17.

² Who sacrifices to Sraosha.

XII. RASHN YAST.

Rashnu Razista, 'the truest True,' is the Genius of Truth: he is one of the three judges of the departed, with Mithra and Sraosha: he holds the balance in which the deeds of men are weighed after their death: 'he makes no unjust balance . . . , neither for the pious nor yet the wicked, neither for lords nor yet rulers; as much as a hair's breadth he will not vary, and he shows no favour¹.' He is an offshoot either of Mithra, the God of Truth and the avenger of lies, or of Ahura Mazda himself, the all-knowing lord (§ 2 seq.).

This Yast seems to be an appeal made to Rashnu to come and attend the performance of the *var nîrang* or ordeal (see p. 170, note 3), of which Rashnu, as the Genius of Truth, was the natural witness and arbiter (cf. Vend. IV, 54-55 [154-156]). As a god of Truth must know everything and be present everywhere, he is called from whatever part of the world he may actually be in. This brings about an enumeration of all the parts of the world, from this earth (§§ 9-22) to the highest heaven (§ 37), passing through the Albôrz (§§ 23-26), the star region (§§ 26-32), the moon region (§ 33), and the sun region (§ 34; cf. p. 73, note 2).

This Yast is recited on the days of Rashn, Murdâd, Âshtâd, and Zemyâd (the 18th, 7th, 26th, and 28th of the month).

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness.

Unto Rashnu Razista; unto Arstât, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase; unto the true-spoken speech, that makes the world grow²;

¹ Minokhirad II, 120-121 (tr. West).

² Sîrôzah I, 18.

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyôδ: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I.

1. The holy (Zarathustra) asked him¹: 'O holy Ahura Mazda! I ask thee; answer me with words of truth, thou who knowest the truth. Thou art undeceivable, thou hast an undeceivable understanding; thou art undeceivable, as thou knowest everything.

'What of the Holy Word is created true? what is created progress-making? what is fit to discern? what is healthful? what is wise? what is happy and more powerful to destroy than all other creatures²?'

2. Ahura Mazda answered: 'I will declare that unto thee, O pure, holy Spitama!

'The most glorious Holy Word (itself), this is what in the Holy Word is created true, what is created progress making, what is fit to discern, what is healthful, wise, and happy, what is more powerful to destroy than all other creatures.'

3. Ahura Mazda said: 'Bind up a three-twigged baresma against the way of the sun. [Address] unto me, Ahura Mazda, these words: "We invoke, we bless [Ahura]³; I invoke the friendship [of Ahura] towards this var⁴ prepared, towards the fire and the baresma, towards the full boiling [milk⁵], towards the var⁴ of oil and the sap⁶ of the plants."

¹ Ahura Mazda.

² Cf. Yt. I, 1 seq.

³ The text is apparently corrupt and has literally, 'We invoke, we bless me, Ahura Mazda.'

⁴ See following page, note 3.

⁵ Possibly, waters; cf. Yt. V, 132 and Vend. IV, 46 [128], 54 [154] seq.

⁶ Literally, the fat.

4. 'Then I, Ahura Mazda, shall come for help unto thee, towards this var prepared, towards the fire and the baresma, towards the full boiling [milk], towards the var of oil and the sap of the plants;

'Along with the fiend-smiting Wind, along with the cursing thought of the wise¹, along with the kingly Glory, along with Saoka², made by Mazda.

5. 'We invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong; I invoke his friendship towards this var³ prepared, towards the fire and the baresma, towards the full boiling [milk], towards the var of oil and the sap of the plants.

6. 'Then Rashnu the tall, the strong, will come for help unto thee, towards this var prepared, towards the fire and the baresma, towards the full boiling [milk], towards the var of oil and the sap of the plants:

'Along with the fiend-smiting Wind, along with the cursing thought of the wise, along with the kingly Glory, along with Saoka, made by Mazda.

7. 'O thou, holy Rashnu! O most true Rashnu! most beneficent Rashnu! most knowing Rashnu! most discerning Rashnu! most fore-knowing Rashnu! most far-seeing Rashnu! Rashnu, the

¹ See p. 12, note 13.

² See Vend. XXII, 3.

³ Varô; this seems to be the Var nîrang or ordeal which is alluded to in several passages of the Avesta; cf. Afrîgân I, 9; Yasna XXXI, 3 b (see Pahl. Comm.; cf. Comm. ad XXXIV, 4 a); cf. Vend. IV, 46, 55. According to the Dînkart, there were thirty-three kinds of var ordeals (Haug, Ardâ Virâf, p. 145); the most common was to pour melted copper upon the breast of the man whose truth was to be tested: if he went off uninjured, he was considered to have spoken the truth. Cf. Vend. Introd. III, 9.

best doer of justice¹! Rashnu, the best smiter of thieves;

8. 'The uninjured, the best killer, smiter, destroyer of thieves and bandits! in whatever part of the world thou art watching the doings² of men and making the account³.

II.

9. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the Karshvare Arezahi⁴, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared⁵ in whatever part of the world thou art.

III.

10. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the Karshvare Savahi⁴, we invoke, we bless Rashnu. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared in whatever part of the world thou art.

IV.

11. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the Karshvare Fradadhafshu⁴, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared in whatever part of the world thou art.

V.

12. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the

¹ Arethama/-bairishta: aretha is dînâ, dâdistân (law, justice).

² Kesa=kartârî (Pahl. Comm. ad Vend. XXI, 3 [14]).

³ I cannot make anything of the rest of the sentence hadhanâ tanasus; cf. § 38.

⁴ See Yt. X, 15, note 5.

⁵ The rest as in §§ 5-8.

Karshvare Vîdadhafshu¹, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared in whatever part of the world thou art.

VI.

13. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the Karshvare Vouru-baresti¹, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared in whatever part of the world thou art.

VII.

14. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the Karshvare Vouru-garesti¹, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared in whatever part of the world thou art.

VIII.

15. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in this Karshvare, the bright *Hvaniratha*¹, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared in whatever part of the world thou art.

IX.

16. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the sea Vouru-Kasha², we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared in whatever part of the world thou art.

¹ See Yt. X, 15, note 5.

² See p. 54, note 6.

X.

17. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art on the tree of the eagle¹, that stands in the middle of the sea Vouru-Kasha, that is called the tree of good remedies, the tree of powerful remedies, the tree of all remedies, and on which rest the seeds of all plants; we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XI.

18. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art on the Aodhas² of the Rangha, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XII.

19. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art on the Sanaka³ of the Rangha, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

¹ The Saêna, in later mythology the Sinamrû or Sîmûrgh; his 'resting-place is on the tree which is Jaz-bêsh (opposed to harm) of all seeds; and always when he rises aloft, a thousand twigs will shoot forth from that tree; and when he alights, he will break off the thousand twigs, and he sheds their seed therefrom. And the bird Chañmrôsh for ever sits in that vicinity; and his work is this, that he collects that seed which sheds from the tree of all seeds, which is Jaz-bêsh, and conveys it there where Tishtar seizes the water, so that Tishtar may seize the water with that seed of all kinds, and may rain it on the world with the rain' (Minokhirad LXII, 37; tr. West).

² By the floods (? Vend. I, 26); it has probably a geographical meaning; cf. the following paragraph; perhaps the marshy country at the mouth of the Tigris.

³ Cf. Yt. X, 104; aodhas and sanaka may refer to the southern and northern basin of the Tigris.

XIII.

20. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art at one of the angles of this earth, we invoke we bless Rashnu. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XIV.

21. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art at the boundary of this earth, we invoke, we bless Rashnu. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XV.

22. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in any place of this earth, we invoke, we bless Rashnu. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XVI.

23. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art on the Hara Berezaiti, the bright mountain around which the many (stars) revolve, where come neither night nor darkness, no cold wind and no hot wind, no deathful sickness, no uncleanness made by the Daêvas, and the clouds cannot reach up unto the Haraiti Bareza¹; we invoke, we bless Rashnu. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XVII.

24. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art upon the highest Hukairya, of the deep precipices², made of gold, wherefrom this river of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, leaps from a thousand times the height of a man, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

¹ Cf. Yt. X, 50.

² Reading vîspô-vaêmem; cf. Yt. V, 96, note 7.

XVIII.

25. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art upon the Taêra of the height Haraiti, around which the stars, the moon, and the sun revolve¹, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XIX.

26. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the star Vanant², made by Mazda, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XX.

27. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the bright and glorious star Tistrya³, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards the var prepared

XXI.

28. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the group of the Haptôiringa stars³, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XXII.

29. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in those stars that have the seed of the waters in them⁴, we

¹ See Bund. V, 3 seq.; cf. Yt. X, 13, 50.

² Cf. Yt. XX and Yt. VIII, 12.

³ Cf. Yt. VIII, 12.

⁴ 'The star of water essence is for the increase of water; and the star of earth essence, for the increase of earth; and the star of tree essence, for the increase of trees; and the star of cattle essence,

invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XXIII.

30. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in those stars that have the seed of the earth in them¹, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XXIV.

31. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in those stars that have the seed of the plants in them¹, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XXV.

32. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the stars that belong to the Good Spirit², we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XXVI.

33. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the moon which has the seed of the Bull in it³, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

for the increase of cattle; and the essence of water, and earth, and trees, and cattle is created for the increase of man' (Minokhirad XLIX, 7, tr. West).

¹ See preceding note.

² Excluding the planets which belong to Ahriman (Minokhirad VIII, 19; Bund. III, 25; V, 1).

³ See above, p. 8, note 8.

XXVII.

34. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the swift-horsed sun, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XXVIII.

35. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the sovereign endless Light, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XXIX.

36. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XXX.

37. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art in the shining Garô-demâna¹, we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

XXXI.

38. 'Whether thou, O holy Rashnu! art² we invoke, we bless Rashnu, the strong. I invoke his friendship towards this var prepared

39. 'For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ The highest heaven, the abode of Ormazd.

² ? Upa hadhana hadhanâ tanasus; cf. § 8, p. 171, note 3.

‘Yênhê hâtām: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda . . .

40. ‘Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness . . .

‘I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of Rashnu Razista; of Arstât, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase; and of the true-spoken speech that makes the world grow.

‘Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

‘[Give] unto that man¹ brightness and glory, give him health of body, . . . give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.’

¹ Who shall have worshipped Rashnu.

XIII. FARVARDÎN YAST.

The Fravashi is the inner power in every being that maintains it and makes it grow and subsist. Originally the Fravashis were the same as the *Pitris* of the Hindus or the *Manes* of the Latins, that is to say, the everlasting and deified souls of the dead (see §§ 49-52); but in course of time they gained a wider domain, and not only men, but gods and even physical objects, like the sky and the earth, &c. (§§ 85-86), had each a Fravashi (see Ormazd et Ahriman, §§ 111-113).

This Yast is to be divided into two parts. The former part (§§ 1-84) is a glorification of the powers and attributes of the Fravashis in general; the latter part (§§ 85-158) is an enumeration of the Fravashis of the most celebrated heroes of Mazdeism, from the first man, Gaya Maretan, down to the last, Saoshyant.

This latter part is like a Homer's catalogue of Mazdeism. The greatest part of the historical legends of Iran lies here condensed into a register of proper names. This enumeration is divided into seven chapters:

The first (XXIV, §§ 85-95) contains the names of several gods, of the first man, Gaya Maretan, the first law-giver, Zarathustra, and his first disciple, Maidhyô-maungha;

The second part (XXV, §§ 96-110) contains the names of the disciples of Zarathustra, most of them belonging to the epical cyclus of Vîstâspa (Gustâsp);

The third part (XXVI, §§ 111-117) is of uncertain character, and no name contained in it is found in the epical legends;

The fourth part (XXVII, §§ 118-128) seems to be devoted to the heroes of the other Karshvares and to mythical beings, born or unborn (cf. §§ 121, 122, 127, 128);

The fifth part (XXVIII, § 129) is devoted to Saoshyant alone;

The sixth part (XXIX, §§ 130-138) is devoted to the heroes before the time of Zarathustra;

The seventh part (XXX, §§ 139-142) is devoted to the holy women of Mazdeism from Hvôvi, Zarathustra's wife, down to Srûta-fedhri, Vanghu-fedhri, and Ereda-fedhri, the future mothers of his three unborn sons.

The second, third, and fourth enumerations all end with the

name of *Astvat-ereta* (that is to say, *Saoshyanti*), which shows that they do not refer to successive generations, but to three independent branches, which are each developed apart down to the time of the Saviour.

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced !

Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura ;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness.

Unto the awful, overpowering Fravashis of the faithful ; unto the Fravashis of the men of the primitive law¹ ; unto the Fravashis of the next-of-kin,

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairiyô : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I.

1. Ahura Mazda spake unto Spitama Zarathustra, saying : ' Do thou proclaim, O pure Zarathustra ! the vigour and strength, the glory, the help and the joy that are in the Fravashis of the faithful, the awful and overpowering Fravashis ; do thou tell how they come to help me, how they bring assistance unto me, the awful Fravashis of the faithful².

2. ' Through their brightness and glory, O Zarathustra ! I maintain that sky, there above, shining and seen afar, and encompassing this earth all around.

3. ' It looks like a palace, that stands built of a

¹ The so-called *paoiryô-kaêsha* : the primitive law is what ' is considered as the true Mazdayasnian religion in all ages, both before and after the time of Zaratûst ' (West, Pahlavi Texts, I, 242, note 1) ; cf. § 150.

² Cf. § 19.

heavenly substance¹, firmly established, with ends that lie afar, shining in its body of ruby over the three-thirds (of the earth)²; it is like a garment inlaid with stars, made of a heavenly substance, that Mazda puts on, along with Mithra and Rashnu and Spenta-Ârmaiti, and on no side can the eye perceive the end of it.

4. 'Through their brightness and glory, O Zarathustra! I maintain Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, the wide-expanding and health-giving, who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura, who is worthy of sacrifice in the material world, worthy of prayer in the material world; the life-increasing and holy, the flocks-increasing and holy, the fold-increasing and holy, the wealth-increasing and holy, the country-increasing and holy³;

5⁴. 'Who makes the seed of all males pure, who makes the womb of all females pure for bringing forth, who makes all females bring forth in safety, who puts milk in the breasts of all females in the right measure and the right quality;

6. 'The large river, known afar, that is as large as the whole of all the waters that run along the earth; that runs powerfully from the height Hukairya down to the sea Vouru-Kasha.

7. 'All the shores of the sea Vouru-Kasha are boiling over, all the middle of it is boiling over,

¹ Reading mainyu-tâstô; cf. Yt. X, 90, 143, and in this very paragraph vanghanem mainyu-tâstem.

² A division of the earth different from and older than the division into seven Karshvares; cf. Yasna XI, 7 [21]; this division was derived by analogy from the tripartite division of the universe (earth, atmosphere, and heaven).

³ Yt. V, 1.

⁴ §§ 5-8 = Yt. V, 2-5.

when she runs down there, when she streams down there, she, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, who has a thousand cells and a thousand channels; the extent of each of those cells, of each of those channels, is as much as a man can ride in forty days, riding on a good horse.

8. 'From this river of mine alone flow all the waters that spread all over the seven Karshvares; this river of mine alone goes on bringing waters, both in summer and in winter. This river of mine purifies the seed in males, the womb in females, the milk in females' breasts¹.

9. 'Through their brightness and glory, O Zarathustra! I maintain the wide earth made by Ahura, the large and broad earth, that bears so much that is fine, that bears all the bodily world, the live and the dead, and the high mountains, rich in pastures and waters;

10. 'Upon which run the many streams and rivers; upon which the many kinds of plants grow up from the ground, to nourish animals and men, to nourish the Aryan nations, to nourish the five kinds of animals², and to help the faithful.

11. 'Through their brightness and glory, O Zarathustra! I maintain in the womb the child that has been conceived, so that it does not die from the

¹ §§ 4-8=Yt. V, 1-5.

² There are five classes of animals: those living in waters (upâpa), those living under the ground (upasma=upa-zema), the flying ones (fraptargat), the running ones (ravasêarant), the grazing ones (êangranghâê); Vispêrad I, 1 seq.; Yt. XIII, 74. The representatives of those several classes are the kar mâhi fish, the ermine, the karsipt, the hare, and the ass-goat (Pahl. Comm. ad Visp. l. 1.).

assaults of Vîdôtu¹, and I develop in it² the bones, the hair, the³, the entrails, the feet, and the sexual organs.

12. 'Had not the awful Fravashis of the faithful given help unto me, those animals and men of mine, of which there are such excellent kinds, would not subsist; strength would belong to the Drug, the dominion would belong to the Drug, the material world would belong to the Drug.

13 'Between the earth and the sky the immaterial creatures would be harassed by the Drug; between the earth and the sky the immaterial creatures would be smitten by the Drug; and never afterwards would Angra-Mainyu give way to the blows of Spenta-Mainyu.

14. 'Through their brightness and glory the waters run and flow forward from the never-failing springs; through their brightness and glory the plants grow up from the earth, by the never-failing springs; through their brightness and glory the winds blow, driving down the clouds towards the never-failing springs.

15. 'Through their brightness and glory the females conceive offspring; through their brightness and glory they bring forth in safety; it is through their brightness and glory when they become blessed with children.

16. 'Through their brightness and glory a man is born who is a chief in assemblies and meetings⁴, who listens well⁵ to the (holy) words, whom Wisdom

¹ See Vend. IV, 40 [137].

² Doubtful.

³ ? Derewda.

⁴ Ἄ ποιμὴν λαῶν.

⁵ Who learns well, who has the gaoshô-srûta khratu.

holds dear¹, and who returns a victor from discussions with Gaotema, the heretic².

‘Through their brightness and glory the sun goes his way; through their brightness and glory the moon goes her way; through their brightness and glory the stars go their way.

17. ‘In fearful battles they are the wisest for help, the Fravashis of the faithful.

‘The most powerful amongst the Fravashis of the faithful, O Spitama! are those of the men of the primitive law³ or those of the Saoshyants⁴ not yet born, who are to restore the world. Of the others, the Fravashis of the living faithful are more powerful, O Zarathustra! than those of the dead, O Spitama!

18. ‘And the man who in life shall treat the Fravashis of the faithful well, will become a ruler of the country with full power, and a chief most strong; so shall any man of you become, who shall treat Mithra well, the lord of wide pastures, and Arstât, who makes the world grow, who makes the world increase.

19. ‘Thus do I proclaim unto thee, O pure Spitama! the vigour and strength, the glory, the help, and the joy that are in the Fravashis of the faithful,

¹ Or, ‘who wishes for wisdom’ (lore; khratukâta=khratukâtinah).

² Yô nâidhyanghô gaotemahê parô ayzu parstôit avâiti. This seems to be an allusion to controversies with the Buddhists or Gotama’s disciples, whose religion had obtained a footing in the western parts of Iran as early as the second century before Christ. Nâidhyanghô means a heretic, an Ashemaogha (see Pahl. Comm. ad Yasna XXXIV, 8).

³ See above, p. 180, note 1.

⁴ See above, p. 165, note 1.

the awful and overpowering Fravashis; and how they come to help me, how they bring assistance unto me, the awful Fravashis of the faithful¹.

II.

20. Ahura Mazda spake unto Spitama Zarathustra, saying: 'If in this material world, O Spitama Zarathustra! thou happenest to come upon frightful roads, full of dangers and fears, O Zarathustra! and thou fearest for thyself, then do thou recite these words, then proclaim these fiend-smiting words, O Zarathustra!

21. "I praise, I invoke, I meditate upon, and we sacrifice unto the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful. We worship the Fravashis of the masters of the houses, those of the lords of the boroughs, those of the lords of the towns, those of the lords of the countries, those of the Zarathustrôtemas²; the Fravashis of those that are, the Fravashis of those that have been, the Fravashis of those that will be; all the Fravashis of all nations³, and most friendly the Fravashis of the friendly nations;

22. "Who maintain the sky, who maintain the waters, who maintain the earth, who maintain the cattle, who maintain in the womb the child that has been conceived, so that it does not die from the assaults of Vidôtu, and develop in it the bones, the hair, the, the entrails, the feet, and the sexual organs⁴;

23. "Who are much-bringing, who move with

¹ Cf. § I.

² See Yt. X, 115, note.

³ See § 143, text and note.

⁴ See § 11.

awfulness, well-moving, swiftly moving, quickly moving, who move when invoked; who are to be invoked in the conquest of good, who are to be invoked in fights against foes, who are to be invoked in battles;

24. "Who give victory to their invoker, who give boons to their lover, who give health to the sick man, who give good Glory to the faithful man that brings libations and invokes them with a sacrifice and words of propitiation¹;

25. "Who turn to that side where are faithful men, most devoted to holiness, and where is the greatest piety², where the faithful man is rejoiced³, and where the faithful man is not ill-treated⁴."

III.

26. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who are the mightiest of drivers, the lightest of those driving forwards, the slowest of the retiring⁵, the safest⁶ of all bridges, the least-erring⁶ of all weapons and arms⁶, and who never turn their backs⁷.

27. At once, wherever they come, we worship them, the good ones, the excellent ones, the good, the strong, the beneficent Fravashis of the faithful. They are to be invoked when the bundles of baresma are tied; they are to be invoked in fights against foes, in battles⁸, and there where gallant men strive to conquer foes.

¹ Cf. § 40.

² Fréritaū: cf. fréreti=farnâmisn, âdesa (Yasna VIII, 2 [4]).

³ With alms (ashô-dâd).

⁴ Cf. § 36.

⁵ Doubtful.

⁶ Defensive arms.

⁷ To flee.

⁸ Cf. § 23.

28. Mazda invoked them for help, when he fixed the sky and the waters and the earth and the plants; when Spenta-Mainyu fixed the sky, when he fixed the waters, when the earth, when the cattle, when the plants, when the child conceived in the womb, so that it should not die from the assaults of Vidôtu, and developed in it the bones, the hair, the, the entrails, the feet, and the sexual organs¹.

29. Spenta-Mainyu maintained the sky, and they sustained it from below, they, the strong Fravashis, who sit in silence, gazing with sharp looks; whose eyes and ears are powerful, who bring long joy, high and high-girded; well-moving and moving afar, loud-snorting², possessing riches and a high renown.

IV.

30. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful; whose friendship is good, and who know how to benefit; whose friendship lasts long; who like to stay in the abode where they are not harmed by its dwellers; who are good, beautiful afar³, health-giving, of high renown, conquering in battle, and who never do harm first.

V.

31. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful; whose will is dreadful unto those who vex them; powerfully working and most beneficent; who in battle break the dread arms of their foes and haters.

¹ Cf. §§ 11, 22.

² They are compared to horses; cf. Yt. VIII, 2.

³ Their beauty is seen afar. One manuscript has 'known afar;' another, 'whose eyesight reaches far.'

VI.

32. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful; liberal, valiant, and full of strength, not to be seized by thought, welfare-giving, kind, and health-giving, following with Ashi's remedies, as far as the earth extends, as the rivers stretch, as the sun rises¹.

VII.

33. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who gallantly and bravely fight, causing havoc, wounding², breaking to pieces all the malice of the malicious, Daêvas and men, and smiting powerfully in battle, at their wish and will.

34. You kindly deliver the Victory made by Ahura, and the crushing Ascendant, most beneficently, to those countries where you, the good ones, unharmed and rejoiced, unoppressed and unoffended, have been held worthy of sacrifice and prayer, and proceed the way of your wish.

VIII.

35. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, of high renown, smiting in battle, most strong, shield-bearing and harmless to those who are true, whom both the pursuing and the fleeing invoke for help: the pursuer invokes

¹ All the beneficent powers hidden in the earth, in the waters, and in the sun, and which Ashi Vanguhi (Yt. XVII) imparts to man.

² Doubtful: *urvaênaitîs*.

them for a swift race, and for a swift race does the fleer invoke them ;

36. Who turn to that side where are faithful men, most devoted to holiness, and where is the greatest piety, where the faithful man is rejoiced, and where the faithful man is not ill-treated ¹.

IX.

37. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who form many battalions, girded with weapons ², lifting up spears, and full of sheen ; who in fearful battles come rushing along where the gallant heroes ³ go and assail the Dânus ⁴.

38. There you destroy the victorious strength of the Turanian Dânus ; there you destroy the malice of the Turanian Dânus ; through you the chiefs ⁵ are of high intellect ⁶ and most successful ; they, the gallant heroes ³, the gallant Saoshyants ⁷, the gallant conquerors of the offspring of the Dânus chiefs of myriads, who wound with stones ⁸.

X.

39. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who rout the two wings of an army standing in battle array, who make the centre swerve, and swiftly pursue onwards, to help the faithful and to distress the doers of evil deeds.

XI.

40. We worship the good, strong, beneficent

¹ Cf. § 25.

² Yâstô-zayau.

³ Doubtful.

⁴ Yt. V, 72.

⁵ Doubtful.

⁶ Hvîra ; see *Études Iraniennes*, II, 183.

⁷ Cf. p. 165, note 1.

⁸ Doubtful (asabana).

Fravashis of the faithful; awful, overpowering, and victorious, smiting in battle, sorely wounding, blowing away (the foes), moving along to and fro, of good renown, fair of body, godly of soul, and holy; who give victory to their invoker, who give boons to their lover, who give health to the sick man¹;

41. Who give good glory to him who worships them with a sacrifice, as that man did worship them, the holy Zarathustra, the chief of the material world, the head of the two-footed race, in whatever struggle he had to enter, in whatever distress he did fear;

42. Who, when well invoked, enjoy bliss in the heavens; who, when well invoked, come forward from the heavens, who are the heads² of that sky above, possessing the well-shapen Strength, the Victory made by Ahura, the crushing Ascendant, and Welfare³, the wealth-bringing, boon-bringing, holy, well fed, worthy of sacrifice and prayer in the perfection of holiness.

43. They shed Satavaêsa⁴ between the earth and the sky, him to whom the waters belong⁵, who listens to appeals and makes the waters flow and the plants grow up, to nourish animals and men, to nourish the Aryan nations, to nourish the five kinds of animals⁶, and to help the faithful⁷.

44. Satavaêsa comes down and flows between the earth and the sky, he to whom the waters belong, who listens to appeals and makes the waters and the plants grow up, fair, radiant, and full of

¹ Cf. § 24.

² 'The chief creatures;' cf. Gâh II, 8.

³ Saoka; cf. Sîrôzah I, 3, note.

⁴ Cf. Yt. VIII, 9, and 34, note.

⁶ See above, p. 182, note 2.

⁵ *Taf-âpem.*

⁷ Cf. § 10.

light, to nourish animals and men, to nourish the Aryan nations, to nourish the five kinds of animals, and to help the faithful.

XII.

45. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful; with helms of brass, with weapons of brass, with armour¹ of brass; who struggle in the fights for victory in garments of light, arraying the battles and bringing them forwards, to kill thousands of Daêvas.

When the wind blows from behind them² and brings their breath unto men,

46. Then men know where blows the breath of victory: and they pay pious homage unto the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, with their hearts prepared and their arms uplifted.

47. Whichever side they have been first worshipped in the fulness of faith of a devoted heart³, to that side turn the awful Fravashis of the faithful, along with Mithra and Rashnu and the awful cursing thought⁴ of the wise and the victorious wind.

48. And those nations are smitten at one stroke by their fifties and their hundreds, by their hundreds and their thousands, by their thousands and their tens of thousands, by their tens of thousands and their myriads of myriads, against which turn the awful Fravashis of the faithful, along with Mithra and Rashnu, and the awful cursing thought of the wise and the victorious wind.

¹ Doubtful.

² Literally, blows them within.

³ Cf. Yt. X, 9.

⁴ See above, p. 12, note 12.

XIII.

49. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who come and go through the borough at the time of the Hamaspathmaêdha¹; they go along there for ten nights, asking thus²:

50. 'Who will praise us? Who will offer us a sacrifice? Who will meditate upon us? Who will bless us³? Who will receive us with meat and clothes in his hand⁴ and with a prayer worthy of bliss⁵? Of which of us will the name be taken for invocation⁶? Of which of you will the soul be worshipped by you with a sacrifice⁷? To whom will this gift of ours be given, that he may have never-failing food for ever and ever?'

51. And the man who offers them up a sacrifice,

¹ The sixth and last Gâhambâr (see Âfrîgân Gâhambâr), or the last ten days of the year (10th-20th March), including the last five days of the last month, Sapendârmad, and the five complementary days. These last ten days should be spent in deeds of charity, religious banquets (*gasan*), and ceremonies in memory of the dead. It was also at the approach of the spring that the Romans and the Athenians used to offer annual sacrifices to the dead; the Romans in February 'qui tunc extremus anni mensis erat' (Cicero, *De Legibus*, II, 21), the Athenians on the third day of the Anthesterion feast (in the same month). The souls of the dead were supposed to partake of the new life then beginning to circulate through nature, that had also been dead during the long months of winter.

² Perhaps: asking for help, thus.

³ Frînâ: who will pronounce the Âfrîn?

⁴ To be given in alms to poor Mazdayasnians (*ashô-dâd*).

⁵ Asha-nasa: that makes him reach the condition of one of the blessed (*ahlâyîh arzânîk*, Vend. XVIII, 6 [17]): the Sanskrit translation has, 'that is to say, that makes him worthy of a great reward.'

⁶ As in the invocations from § 87 to the end.

⁷ An allusion to the formula: 'I sacrifice to the Fravashi of my own soul,' Yasna XXIII, 4 [6].

with meat and clothes in his hand, with a prayer worthy of bliss, the awful Fravashis of the faithful, satisfied, unharmed, and unoffended, bless thus :

52. 'May there be in this house flocks of animals and men! May there be a swift horse and a solid chariot! May there be a man who knows how to praise God¹ and rule in an assembly, who will offer us sacrifices with meat and clothes in his hand, and with a prayer worthy of bliss².'

XIV.

53. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who show beautiful paths to the waters, made by Mazda, which had stood before for a long time in the same place without flowing³:

54. And now they flow along the path made by Mazda, along the way made by the gods, the watery way appointed to them, at the wish of Ahura Mazda, at the wish of the Amesha-Spentas.

XV.

55. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who show a beautiful growth to the fertile⁴ plants, which had stood before for a long time in the same place without growing :

56. And now they grow up along the path made

¹ Stâhyô: stutikaro (Sansk. tr.; cf. Âtash Nyâis, 10).

² §§ 49-52 are a part of the so-called Âfrîgân Dahmân (a prayer recited in honour of the dead); a Sanskrit translation of that Âfrîgân has been published by Burnouf in his *Études zendes*.

³ In winter.

⁴ Doubtful. The word is *hvawrîra*, which Aspendiârji makes synonymous with *hvâpara*, kind, merciful (*Vispêrad XXI [XXIV], 1*).

by Mazda, along the way made by the gods, in the time appointed to them, at the wish of Ahura Mazda, at the wish of the Amesha-Spentas.

XVI.

57. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who showed their paths to the stars, the moon, the sun, and the endless lights, that had stood before for a long time in the same place, without moving forwards, through the oppression of the Daêvas and the assaults of the Daêvas¹.

58. And now they move around in their far-revolving circle for ever, till they come to the time of the good restoration of the world.

XVII.

59. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who watch over the bright sea Vouru-Kasha², to the number of ninety thousand, and nine thousand, and nine hundred, and ninety-nine.

XVIII.

60. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who watch over the stars Haptôiringa³, to the number of ninety thousand, and nine thousand, and nine hundred, and ninety-nine.

XIX.

61. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who watch over the body

¹ Bundahis VI, 3.

² To keep the white Hôm there from the evil beings that try to destroy it (Minokhirad LXII, 28).

³ See above, p. 97, note 4.

of Keresâspa, the son of Sâma¹, the club-bearer with plaited hair, to the number of ninety thousand, and nine thousand, and nine hundred, and ninety-nine.

XX.

62. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who watch over the seed of the holy Zarathustra², to the number of ninety thousand, and nine thousand, and nine hundred, and ninety-nine.

XXI.

63. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who fight at the right hand of the reigning lord, if he rejoices the faithful³ and if the awful Fravashis of the faithful are not hurt by him, if they are rejoiced by him, unharmed and unoffended.

XXII.

64. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who are greater, who are

¹ Keresâspa lies asleep in the plain of Pêryânsâi; 'the glory (far) of heaven stands over him for the purpose that, when Az-i-Dahâk becomes unfettered, he may arise and slay him; and a myriad guardian spirits of the righteous are as a protection to him' (Bundahis XXIX, 8; tr. West).

² 'Zaratûst went near unto Hvôv (Hvôgvi, his wife) three times, and each time the seed went to the ground; the angel Nêryôsang received the brilliance and strength of that seed, delivered it with care to the angel Anâhîz, and in time will blend it with a mother' (Bundahis XXXII, 8). A maid, Eredat-fedhri, bathing in Lake Kâsava, will conceive by that seed and bring forth the Saviour Saoshyant; his two fore-runners, Ukhshyat-ereta and Ukhshyat-nemah, will be born in the same way of Srûtat-fedhri and Vanghu-fedhri (Yt. XIII, 141-142).

³ With alms.

stronger, who are swifter, who are more powerful, who are more victorious, who are more healing, who are more effective than can be expressed by words; who run by tens of thousands into the midst of the Myazdas.

65. And when the waters come up from the sea Vouru-Kasha, O Spitama Zarathustra! along with the Glory made by Mazda¹, then forwards come the awful Fravashis of the faithful, many and many hundreds, many and many thousands, many and many tens of thousands,

66. Seeking water for their own kindred, for their own borough, for their own town, for their own country, and saying thus: 'May our own country have a good store and full joy!'

67. They fight in the battles that are fought in their own place and land, each according to the place and house where he dwelt (of yore)²: they look like a gallant warrior who, girded up and watchful, fights for the hoard he has treasured up.

68. And those of them who win bring waters to their own kindred, to their own borough, to their own town, to their own country, saying thus: 'May my country grow and increase!'

69. And when the all-powerful sovereign of a country has been surprised by his foes and haters, he invokes them, the awful Fravashis of the faithful.

70. And they come to his help, if they have not been hurt by him, if they have been rejoiced by him, if they have not been harmed nor offended, the awful Fravashis of the faithful: they come flying unto him, it seems as if they were well-winged birds.

¹ Cf. Yt. XIX, 56 seq.; VIII, 34.

² Doubtful.

71. They come in as a weapon and as a shield, to keep him behind and to keep him in front, from the Drug unseen, from the female Varenya fiend, from the evil-doer bent on mischief, and from that fiend who is all death, Angra Mainyu. It will be as if there were a thousand men watching over one man¹;

72. So that neither the sword well-thrust, neither the club well-falling, nor the arrow well-shot, nor the spear well-darted, nor the stones flung from the arm shall destroy him.

73. They come on this side, they come on that side, never resting, the good, powerful, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, asking for help thus: 'Who will praise us? Who will offer us a sacrifice? Who will meditate upon us? Who will bless us? Who will receive us with meat and clothes in his hand and with a prayer worthy of bliss? Of which of us will the name be taken for invocation? Of which of you will the soul be worshipped by you with a sacrifice? To whom will that gift of ours be given, that he may have never-failing food for ever and ever²?'

74. We worship the perception³; we worship the intellect; we worship the conscience; we worship those of the *Saoshyants*⁴;

We worship the souls; those of the tame animals; those of the wild animals; those of the animals that live in the waters; those of the animals that live under the ground; those of the flying ones; those of the running ones; those of the grazing ones⁵.

¹ Cf. Yt. I, 19.

² *Âsna*=*âzana* (?).

⁵ Cf. Yt. XIII, 10.

³ Cf. § 50.

⁴ Cf. p. 165, note 1.

We worship their Fravashis ¹.

75. We worship the Fravashis.

We worship them, the liberal ;

We worship them, the valiant ; we worship them,
the most valiant ;

We worship them, the beneficent ; we worship
them, the most beneficent ;

We worship them, the powerful ;

We worship them, the most strong ;

We worship them, the light ; we worship them,
the most light ;

We worship them, the effective ; we worship
them, the most effective.

76. They are the most effective amongst the
creatures of the two Spirits, they the good, strong,
beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, who stood
holding fast when the two Spirits created the world,
the Good Spirit and the Evil One ².

77. When Angra Mainyu broke into the creation
of the good holiness, then came in across Vohu
Manô and Âtar ³.

78. They destroyed the malice of the fiend
Angra Mainyu, so that the waters did not stop
flowing nor did the plants stop growing ; but at
once the most beneficent waters of the creator and

¹ There seems to be in this paragraph a distinction of five faculties of the soul, âsna, mana, daêna, urvan, fravashi. The usual classification, as given in this Yast, § 149, and in later Parsism (Spiegel, Die traditionelle Literatur der Parsen, p. 172), is: ahû, spirit of life (?); daêna, conscience ; baodhô, perception ; urvan, the soul ; fravashi.

² The Fravashis, 'on war horses and spear in hand, were around the sky . . . and no passage was found by the evil spirit, who rushed back' (Bund. VI, 3-4 ; tr. West).

³ Cf. Ormazd et Ahriman, § 107.

ruler, Ahura Mazda, flowed forward and his plants went on growing.

79. We worship all the waters ;

We worship all the plants ;

We worship all the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful.

We worship the waters by their names¹ ;

We worship the plants by their names² ;

We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful by their names.

80. Of all those ancient Fravashis, we worship the Fravashi of Ahura Mazda ; who is the greatest, the best, the fairest, the most solid, the wisest, the finest of body and supreme in holiness³ ;

81. Whose soul is the Māthra Spenta, who is white, shining, seen afar ; and we worship the beautiful forms, the active forms wherewith he clothes the Amesha-Spentas ; we worship the swift-horsed sun.

XXIII.

82. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the Amesha-Spentas, the bright ones, whose looks perform what they wish, the tall, quickly coming to do, strong, and lordly, who are undecaying and holy ;

83. Who are all seven of one thought, who are all seven of one speech, who are all seven of one deed ; whose thought is the same, whose speech is the same, whose deed is the same, whose father and

¹ That is to say, after their different kinds (described in Yasna XXXVIII, 3, 5 [7-9, 13-14] ; LXVIII, 8 [LXVII, 15] ; and Bund. XXI).

² After their kinds (Bund. XXVII).

³ Cf. Yasna I, 1.

commander is the same, namely, the Maker, Ahura Mazda ;

84. Who see one another's soul thinking of good thoughts, thinking of good words, thinking of good deeds, thinking of Garô-nmâna, and whose ways¹ are shining as they go down towards the libations².

XXIV.

85. We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis: that of the most rejoicing³ fire, the beneficent and assembly-making⁴; and that of the holy, strong Sraosha⁵, who is the incarnate Word, a mighty-speared and lordly god; and that of Nairyô-sangha⁶.

86. And that of Rashnu Razista⁷;

That of Mithra⁸, the lord of wide pastures ;

That of the Mâthra-Spenta⁹ ;

That of the sky ;

That of the waters ;

That of the earth ;

That of the plants ;

That of the Bull¹⁰ ;

That of the living man¹¹ ;

That of the holy creation¹².

87. We worship the Fravashi of Gaya Maretan¹³,

¹ The Vedic devayâna.

² Cf. Yt. XIX, 15, 17.

³ Urvâzista. As a proper name Urvâzista is the name of the fire in plants (Yasna XVII, 11 [65], and Bund. XVII, 1).

⁴ At the hearth and the altar.

⁵ See Yt. XI.

⁶ See Vend. XXII, 7.

⁷ See Yt. XII.

⁸ See Yt. X.

⁹ The Holy Word.

¹⁰ See Sîrôzah I, 12.

¹¹ Of mankind; possibly, of Gaya (Maretan).

¹² Doubtful.

¹³ The first man. On the myths of Gaya Maretan, see Ormazd et Ahriman, §§ 129-135.

who first listened unto the thought and teaching of Ahura Mazda; of whom Ahura formed the race of the Aryan nations, the seed of the Aryan nations.

We worship the piety and the Fravashi of the holy Zarathustra;

88. Who first thought what is good, who first spoke what is good, who first did what is good; who was the first Priest, the first Warrior, the first Plougher of the ground¹; who first knew and first taught; who first possessed² and first took possession of the Bull³, of Holiness⁴, of the Word, the obedience to the Word, and dominion, and all the good things made by Mazda, that are the offspring of the good Principle;

89. Who was the first Priest, the first Warrior, the first Plougher of the ground; who first took the turning of the wheel⁵ from the hands of the Daêva and of the cold-hearted man; who first in the material world pronounced the praise of Asha⁶, thus bringing the Daêvas to naught, and confessed himself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas, and obeys the laws of Ahura.

90. Who first in the material world said the word that destroys the Daêvas, the law of Ahura; who first in the material world proclaimed the word that destroys the Daêvas, the law of Ahura; who

¹ As having established those three classes. His three earthly sons, *Isa/-vâstra*, *Urvata/-nara*, and *Hvare-kithra* (§ 98), were the chiefs of the three classes. Cf. Vend. Introd. III, 15, note 3.

² Doubtful.

³ Cf. Yasna XXIX, 8.

⁴ The divine Order, Asha.

⁵ The wheel of sovereignty (?); cf. Yt. X, 67; this expression smacks of Buddhism.

⁶ Who first pronounced the Ashem Vohû; cf. Yt. XXI.

first in the material world declared all the creation of the Daêvas unworthy of sacrifice and prayer; who was strong, giving all the good things of life, the first bearer of the Law amongst the nations;

91. In whom was heard the whole Mâthra, the word of holiness; who was the lord and master of the world¹, the praiser of the most great, most good and most fair Asha²; who had a revelation of the Law, that most excellent of all beings;

92. For whom the Amesha-Spentas longed, in one accord with the sun, in the fulness of faith of a devoted heart; they longed for him, as the lord and master of the world, as the praiser of the most great, most good, and most fair Asha, as having a revelation of the Law, that most excellent of all beings;

93. In whose birth and growth the waters and the plants rejoiced; in whose birth and growth the waters and the plants grew; in whose birth and growth all the creatures of the good creations cried out, Hail³!

94. 'Hail to us! for he is born, the Âthravan, Spitama Zarathustra. Zarathustra will offer us sacrifices with libations and bundles of baresma; and there will the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda come and spread through all the seven Karshvares of the earth.

95. 'There will Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, increase all the excellences of our countries, and allay their troubles; there will the powerful Apâm-Napât⁴ increase all the excellences of our countries, and allay their troubles.'

¹ Material lord and spiritual master.

² The reciter of the Ashem Vohû.

³ Cf. Vend. XIX, 46 [143].

⁴ See Sîrôzah I, 9, note.

We worship the piety and Fravashi of Maidhyô-maungha, the son of Ârâsti¹, who first listened unto the word and teaching of Zarathustra.

XXV.

96. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Asmô-hvanvant²;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Asan-hvanvant.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Gavayan.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Parshat-gaus³, the son of Frâta;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vohvasti, the son of Snaoya;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Isvat, the son of Varâza.

97. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Saêna, the son of Ahûm-stu⁴, who first appeared upon this earth with a hundred pupils⁵.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Fradhi-daya.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Usmânara, the son of Paêshata.

¹ Maidhyô-maungha was the cousin and first disciple of Zarathustra; Zarathustra's father, Pourushaspa, and Ârâsti were brothers (Bund. XXXII, 3); cf. Yasna LI [L], 19.

² Cf. p. 33, note 2; Yt. XXII, 37.

³ Another Parsat-gaus is mentioned § 126.

⁴ Possibly, 'the holy falcon, praiser of the lord;' thus the Law was brought to the Var of Yima by the bird Karsipta (Vend. II, 42), who recites the Avesta in the language of birds (Bund. XIX, 16): the Saêna-bird (Sîmurgh) became in later literature a mythical incarnation of Supreme wisdom (see the Mantik uttair and Dabistân I, 55).

⁵ Who was the first regular teacher, the first aêthrapaiti.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vohuraoēah, the son of Frānya ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ashōraoēah, the son of Frānya ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Varesmōraoēah, the son of Frānya.

98. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Isatvāstra, the son of Zarathustra ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Urvatatnara, the son of Zarathustra ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Hvareñithra, the son of Zarathustra ¹.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Daévōtbis, the son of Takhma.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Thrimithwant, the son of Spitāma ².

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Daungha, the son of Zairita.

99. We worship the Fravashi of the holy king Vistāspa ³; the gallant one, who was the incarnate

¹ 'By Zaratūst were begotten three sons and three daughters; one son was Isadvāstar, one Aūrvataḍ-nar, and one Khūrshêḍ-ñihar; as Isadvāstar was chief of the priests he became the Mōbad of Mōbads, and passed away in the hundredth year of the religion; Aūrvataḍ-nar was an agriculturist, and the chief of the enclosure formed by Yim, which is below the earth (see Vend. II, 43 [141]); Khūrshêḍ-ñihar was a warrior, commander of the army of Pēshyōtanū, son of Vistāsp (see Yt. XXIV, 4), and dwells in Kangdez; and of the three daughters the name of one was Frên, of one Srît, and of one Pōrukîst (see Yt. XIII, 139). Aūrvataḍ-nar and Khūrshêḍ-ñihar were from a serving (*takar*) wife, the rest were from a privileged (*pâḍakhshah*) wife' (Bund. XXXII, 5-6; tr. West).

² According to Anquetil, 'the threefold seed of Spitama Zarathustra;' cf. above, § 62.

³ The king of Bactra, the champion of Zoroastrism; cf. Yt. V, 98, 108.

Word, the mighty-speared, and lordly one; who, driving the Drug¹ before him, sought wide room for the holy religion; who, driving the Drug¹ before him, made wide room for the holy religion, who made himself the arm and support of this law of Ahura, of this law of Zarathustra.

100. Who took her², standing bound³, from the hands of the Hunus⁴, and established her to sit in the middle [of the world], high ruling, never falling back, holy, nourished with plenty of cattle and pastures, blessed with plenty of cattle and pastures⁴.

101. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Zairivairi⁵;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Yukhtavairi;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Srtraokhsan;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Keresaoxshan;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vanâra;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Varâza;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Bûgisravah⁶;

¹ Druga *paurvanka*, possibly, 'with the spear pushed forwards' (reading *drukâ*).

² Daêna, the religion.

³ Cf. Yt. II, 15.

⁴ A generic name of the people called elsewhere Varedhakas (Yt. IX, 31; XVII, 51) or *Hvyaonas* (ibid. and XIX, 87). The Hunus have been compared with the Hunni; but it is not certain that this is a proper name; it may be a disparaging denomination, meaning the brood (*hunu* = Sansk. *sînu*; cf. Yt. X, 113).

⁵ Zarîr, the brother of Vîstâspa and son of Aurvat-aspa (see Yt. V, 112). The ten following seem to be the names of the other sons of Aurvat-aspa (Bund. XXXI, 29).

⁶ Possibly the same with Pât-Khosrav, a brother to Vîstâspa in the *Yâzkâr-î Zarîrân*, as Mr. West informs me.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Âtare-
hvarēnah ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Âtare-
savah ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Âtare-
zantu ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Âtare-
danghu.

103. We worship the Fravashi of the holy
Huskyaothna ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Pisk-
yaothna ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy and gallant
Spentô-dâta¹.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Basta-
vairi² ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Kavâ-
razem³.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frasha-
ostra⁴, the son of Hvôva ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Gâmâspa⁵,
the son of Hvôva ;

¹ Isfendyâr, the heroic son of Gûstâsp, killed by Rustem.

² In the *Yâdkâr-i Zarîrân*, according to Mr. West, Bastvar, the son of Zairivairi, whose death he avenges on his murderer Vîdrafš. This makes Bastvairi identical with the *Nastûr* نستور of Firdausi (read *Bastûr* بستور).

³ Kavârazem is the Gurezm of later tradition (گوزم), 'the jealous brother of Isfendyâr, whom he slandered to his father and caused to be thrown into prison' (Burhân qâti'h). Firdausi (IV, 432) has only that he was a relation to Gûstâsp : شنیدم که گشتاسپ را خوش بود. See *Études Iraniennes*, II, 230.

⁴ Who gave his daughter, Hvôvi, in marriage to Zarathustra (Yasna L [XLIX], 4, 17).

⁵ See Yt. V, 68.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Avâraostri¹.

104. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Huskyaothna, the son of Frashaostra;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Hvâdaêna*, the son of Frashaostra.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Hanghaurvâungh, the son of *Gâmâspa*²;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vareshna, the son of Hanghaurvâungh.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vohunemah, the son of Avâraostri,

To withstand evil dreams, to withstand evil visions, to withstand evil . . .³, to withstand the evil Pairikas.

105. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Mâthravâka, the son of *Sîmaêzi*, the Aêthrapati, the Hamidhpati⁴, who was able to smite down most of the evil, unfaithful Ashemaoghas, that shout the hymns⁵, and acknowledge no lord and no master⁶, the dreadful ones whose Fravashis are to be broken⁷; to withstand the evil done by the faithful⁸.

¹ Another brother to Frashaostra (?).

² The son of *Gâmâsp* in the *Shâh Nâmah* is called *Girâmî* and *Garâmîk-kard* in the *Yâdkâr-i Zarîrân*.

³ ? Aoiwra.

⁴ Aêthrapati, in Parsi *hêrbad*, a priest, whose special function is to teach; his pupils were called *aêthrya*. Aêthrapati meant literally 'the master of the hearth' (cf. *hêrkodah*, fire-temple). Hamidhpati is literally 'the master of the sacrificial log.'

⁵ Doubtful.

⁶ No temporal lord (*ahu*) and no spiritual master (*ratu*).

⁷ Doubtful (*avasakasta-fravashinâm*).

⁸ The evil done by Zoroastrians. This Mâthravâka ('Proclaimer

106. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ashastu, the son of Maidhyô-maungha¹.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Avarethrabah, the son of Râstare-vaghant.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Bûgra, the son of Dâzgarâspa.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Zbaurvant;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy and gallant Karesna², the son of Zbaurvant; who was the incarnate Word, mighty-speared and lordly;

107. In whose house did walk the good, beautiful, shining Ashi Vanguhi, in the shape of a maid fair of body, most strong, tall-formed, high-up girded, pure, nobly born of a glorious seed³; who, rushing to the battle, knew how to make room for himself with his own arms; who, rushing to the battle, knew how to fight the foe with his own arms⁴.

108. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vîrâspa, the son of Karesna;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Âzâta, the son of Karesna:

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frâyaodha, the son of Karesna.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy and good Arshya; Arshya, the chief in assemblies, the most energetic of the worshippers of Mazda.

of the Holy Word') was apparently a great doctor and confounder of heresies.

¹ See above, § 95.

² Possibly the eponym of that great Kâren family, which played so great a part in the history of the Sassanian times, and traced its origin to the time of Gûstâsp (Noeldeke, *Geschichte der Perser zur Zeit der Sasaniden*, p. 437).

³ Cf. Yt. V, 64.

⁴ Cf. Yt. XIII, 99.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Dârayat-ratha ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frâyat-ratha ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Skârayat-ratha.

109. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Arsvant ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vyarsvant ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Paityarsvant.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Amru¹ ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Kamru¹.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Drâtha ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Paiti-drâtha ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Paiti-vangha.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frashâ-vakhsha.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Nemô-vanghu, the son of Vaêdhayangha.

110. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vîsadha.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ashâ-vanghu, the son of Bivândangha² ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Garô-danghu, the son of Pairistîra² ;

¹ Amru and Kamru are apparently the two mythical birds mentioned above under the names of Sin-amru (the Amru-falcon) and Kâmrôs (p. 173, note 1).

² Mr. West compares Ashâvanghu, the son of Bivândangha, and Garôdanghu, the son of Pairistîra, with the two high-priests of the Karshvares of Arezahi and Savahi, whose names are, in the

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Nere-myazdana, the son of Âthwyôza.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Berezisnu, the son of Ara ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Kasupatu, the son of Ara.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frya.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy ASTVAT-ERETA ¹.

XXVI.

111. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Gaopivanghu.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy and gallant Hâm-baretar vanghvâm ².

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Staotar-Vahistahê-Ashyêhê ³.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Pouru-dhâkhsti, the son of Khstâvaênnya ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Khshoi-wrâspa, the son of Khstâvaênnya.

112. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ayô-asti, the son of Pouru-dhâkhsti ⁴ ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vohv-asti, the son of Pouru-dhâkhsti ;

Bundahis, Ashâshagahad-ê *Hvandkân* and Hoazarôdathri-ê Parêstyarô (Bund. XXIX, 1, notes 4 and 5).

¹ *Saoshyant*; cf. §§ 117, 128.

² Possibly, 'the holy Hâm-baretar vanghvâm, the son of Takhma.' His name means, 'the gatherer of good things.'

³ This name means, 'the praiser of excellent holiness' (the reciter of the Ashem Vohû).

⁴ See preceding paragraph.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Gayadhâsti, the son of Pouru-dhâkhsti;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Asha-vazdah, the son of Pouru-dhâkhsti ¹;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Urûdhu, the son of Pouru-dhâkhsti.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Khshathrô-êinah, the son of Khshvôiwraŝpa ².

113. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ashâhura, the son of Gîsti.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frâyazanta;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frenah, the son of Frâyazanta;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Garôvanghu, the son of Frâyazanta.

We worship the Fravashis of the holy Asha-vazdah and Thrita, the sons of Sâyuzdri ³.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vohuraokah, the son of Varakasa.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Aregangant, the Turanian ⁴.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Usinemah.

114. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Yukhtâspa.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Asha-skyaothna, the son of Gayadhâsti ⁵.

¹ One of the seven immortals, rulers in *Hvaniratha*; cf. Yt. V, 72, text and notes, and Yt. XIII, 120, 124.

² See preceding paragraph.

³ See Yt. V, 72. The text has 'the Fravashi;' cf. Yt. V, 116, note, and Yt. XIII, 115.

⁴ Cf. Yt. XIII, 143. Possibly, the son of Tûra.

⁵ Cf. § 112.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vohu-nemah, the son of Katu ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vohu-vazdah, the son of Katu.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Asha-saredha, the son of Asha-sairyâkê ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Asha-saredha, the son of Zairyâkê.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Kâkhshni.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Syâvâspi.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Pourusti, the son of Kavi.

115. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Varesmapa, the son of Ganara.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Nanârâsti, the son of Paêshatah ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Zarazdâti, the son of Paêshatah.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Gaêvani, the son of Vohu-nemah ¹.

We worship the Fravashis of the holy Arezva and Srûta-spâdha.

We worship the Fravashis ² of the holy Zrayah and Spentô-khratu.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Varsni, the son of Vâgereza.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frâzeya, the son of Taurvâti.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vahmaê-dâta, the son of Mâthravâka ³.

¹ There are two men of this name ; one is the son of Katu (§ 114), the other is the son of Avâraostri (§ 104).

² The text has 'the Fravashi ;' cf. preceding page, note 3.

³ See § 105.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ustra, the son of Sadhanah.

116. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Danghu-srûta ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Danghu-frâdhah.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Aspô-padhô-makhsti ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Payanghrô-makhsti.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ustâzanta.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Asha-savah ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ashô-urvatha.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Haomô-hvarenah.

117. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frava.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Usnâka.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Hvanvant*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Daênô-vazah.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Aregaona.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Aiwi-hvarenah.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Huyazata.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Hare-dhaspa.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Pâzinah.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Hvâkhshathra*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ashô-paoirya.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy ASTVARETA¹.

XXVII.

118. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Hugau.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Anghuyu.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Gâuri ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Yûsta, the son of Gâuri.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Mâzdrâvanghu ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Srîrâvanghu.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Âyûta.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Sûrô-yazata.

119. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Eredhwa.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Kavi.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ukhshan, the son of the great Vîdi-sravah, known afar².

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vanghu-dhâta, the son of Hvadhâta ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Uzya, the son of Vanghu-dhâta ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frya.

120. We worship the Fravashi of the holy one whose name is Ashem-yênhê-raokau ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy one whose name is Ashem-yênhê-vereza ;

¹ Saoshyant; cf. §§ 110, 128.

² Perhaps, Ukhshan, the conqueror of glory, known afar, son of Berezvant.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy one whose name is Ashem-yahmâi-ustâ ¹.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Yôista ², of the Fryâna house.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Usmânara, the son of Paêshatah Paitisrîra ³, to withstand the evil done by one's kindred ⁴.

121. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Spiti ⁵, the son of Uspâsnu ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Erezrâspa, the son of Uspâsnu ⁶.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Usadhan, the son of Mazdayasna.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frâdat-vanghu, the son of Stivant.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Raokas-kaêshman ⁷;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Hvare-kaêshman ⁷.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frasrûtâra ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vîsrûtâra.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Baremna.

¹ One of the immortals, rulers in *Hvaniratha* : he is said to belong to the Fryâna family (Dâdistân XC, 3); he resides in the district of the river Nâivtâk (Bund. XXIX, 5).

² See Yt. V, 81.

³ Paitisrîra is perhaps an epithet (most beautiful?), added to distinguish Paêshatah from the hero mentioned in § 115.

⁴ An allusion to some legend of domestic feud of which Paêshatah was the hero.

⁵ The high-priest of the Fradadhafshu Karshvare (Spîtoîd-i Aûspôsînân ; Bund. XXIX, 1 ; tr. West, note 6).

⁶ The high-priest of the Vîdadhafshu Karshvare (Aîrîz-râsp Aûspôsînân ; see *ibid.*, note 7).

⁷ Cf. § 128.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vîsrûta.

122. We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Hvaspa*¹;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Kathwaraspa*².

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Dawrâmaêshi*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Fraorostra*, the son of *Kaosha*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Frtnâspa*, the son of *Kaêva*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Frâdatnara*, the son of *Gravâratu*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Vohu-ustra*, the son of *Ākhnangha*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Vîvareshvant*, the son of *Ainyu*.

123. We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Frârâzi*, the son of *Tûra*³.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Stipi*, the son of *Ravant*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Parshanta*, the son of *Gandarewa*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Avahya*, the son of *Spenta*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Aêta*, the son of *Mâyû*;

¹ Probably the same with *Huvâsp*, the high-priest in the *Vourubaresti Karshvare* (Bund. XXIX, 1; tr. West, note 8).

² Possibly the same with the high-priest in the *Vouru-garesti karshvare*, *Kakhravâk* (ibid., note 9). *Kakhravâk* is the generic name of the bird *Karshipta* (Pahl. Comm. ad II, 42 [139]); it must stand here by mistake for *Kahârâsp*.

³ Or, 'the Turanian;' cf. § 113.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Yaêtus-gau, the son of Vyâtana.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Garsta, the son of Kavi.

124. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Pouru-bangha, the son of Zaosha.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vohu-dâta, the son of Kâta.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Bzungha, the son of Szungha.

We worship the Fravashis¹ of the holy Hvareza and Ankasa.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Aravaostra, the son of Erezvat-danghu.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frâkithra, the son of Berezvant.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vohuperesa, the son of Ainyu.

125. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Parôdasma, the son of Dâstâghni, a Mîza man of the Mîza land.

We worship the Fravashis of the holy Fratîra and Baêshatastîra.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy and pure Avare-gau, the son of Aoighimatastîra.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Gaomant, the son of Zavan, a Raozdya man of the Raozdya land.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Thriç, the son of Aêvo-saredha-fyaêsta, a Tanya man of the Tanya land.

¹ The text has 'the Fravashi;' cf. §§ 113, 127.

126. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Tîrô-naḡathwa, of the Uspaêsta-Saêna house¹.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Utayuti Viṭ-kavi, the son of Zighri, of the Saêna house¹;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frôhakaфра, the son of Merezišmya, of the Saêna house¹.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Varesmô-raoḡah, the son of Perethu-afzem.

127. We worship the Fravashis² of the holy Asha-nemah and Viḡat-gau, of this country.

We worship the Fravashis² of the holy Par-shat-gau and Dâzgara-gau, of the Apakhshîra country.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Hufra-vâkhs, of the Kahrkana house¹.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Akayadha, of the Pîdha house¹.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Gâmâspa, the younger³.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Maidhyô-maungha, the younger⁴.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Urvataṭ-nara, the younger⁵.

128. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Raoḡas-kaêsman;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Hvare-kaêsman;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frâdat-hvarenah;

¹ See *Études Iraniennes*, II, 142.

² The text has 'the Fravashi;' cf. § 113.

³ Different from Gâmâspa, the son of Hvôva (§ 103).

⁴ Different from Maidhyô-maungha, the son of Ârâsti (§ 95).

⁵ Different from Urvataṭ-nara, the son of Zarathustra (§ 98).

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Varedat-*h*varēnah ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vouru-nemah ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vouru-savah ¹ ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ukhshyat-ereta ² ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ukhshyat-nemah ³ ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy ASTVAT-ERETA ⁴ ;

XXVIII.

129. Whose name will be the victorious SAOSH^{YANT} and whose name will be Astvat-ereta. He will be SAOSH^{YANT} (the Beneficent One), because he will benefit the whole bodily world; he will be ASTVAT-ERETA (he who makes the bodily creatures

¹ The six foremost helpers of Saoshyant, each in one of the six Karshvares : 'It is said that in the fifty-seven years, which are the period of the raising of the dead, Rôshanô-*k*ashm in Arzâh, Khûr-*k*ashm in Savâh, Frâdad-gadman (Frâdat-*h*varēnô, Increaser of Glory) in Fradadzâfsh, Vâredad-gadman (Varedat-*h*varēnô, Multiplier of Glory) in Vîdadzâfsh, Kâmak-vakhshîsn (Vouru-nemô, Prayer-loving) in Vôrûbarst, and Kâmak-sûd (Vouru-savô, Weal-loving) in Vôrûgarst, while Sôshâns in the illustrious and pure Khvanîras is connected with them, are immortal. The completely good sense, perfect hearing, and full glory of those seven producers of the renovation are so miraculous that they converse from region unto region, every one together with the six others' (Dâdistân XXXVI, 5-6 ; tr. West).

² The first brother and forerunner to Saoshyant, the Oshedar mâh of later tradition (see above, p. 196, note 2 ; cf. § 141, note).

³ The second brother and forerunner to Saoshyant, the Oshedar bâmî of later tradition (ibid. ; cf. § 142, note).

⁴ Saoshyant ; cf. following paragraph and §§ 110, 117.

rise up), because as a bodily creature and as a living creature he will stand against the destruction of the bodily creatures, to withstand the Drug of the two-footed brood, to withstand the evil done by the faithful¹.

XXIX.

130. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Yima², the son of Vtvanphant; the valiant Yima, who had flocks at his wish³; to stand against the oppression caused by the Daêvas, against the drought that destroys pastures, and against death that creeps unseen⁴.

131. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Thraêtaona, of the Âthwya house⁵; to stand against itch, hot fever, humours, cold fever, and incontinency⁶, to stand against the evil done by the Serpent⁷.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Aoshnara, the son of Pouru-gtra⁸.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Uzava, the son of Tûmâspa⁹.

¹ He will suppress both the destructive power of the men of the Drug (idolaters and the like) and the errors of Mazdayasians (?).

² See above, p. 25, note 4.

³ Vouru-vâthwa; cf. *Études Iraniennes*, II, 182.

⁴ As he made waters and trees undrying, cattle and men undying.

⁵ See above, p. 61, note 1.

⁶ As the inventor of medicine; see Vend. XX, Introd.

⁷ Disease, being a poison, comes from the Serpent; see *ibid.*

⁸ Or 'Aoshnara, full of wisdom;' cf. Yt. XXIII, 2, and West, *Pahlavi Texts*, II, 171, note 3.

⁹ Called in the *Shâh Nâmah Zab*, son of Tahmâsp, who appears to have been a son of Nodar (*Bund. XXXI*, 23).

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Aghraêratha, the demi-man¹.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Manusêithra, the son of Airyu².

132. We worship the Fravashi of the holy king Kavâta³;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy king Aipivanghu⁴;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy king Usadhan⁵;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy king Arshan⁵;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy king Pisanah⁵;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy king Byârshan⁵;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy king Syâvarshan⁶;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy king Husravah⁶;

133. For the well-shaped Strength⁷, for the Victory made by Ahura, for the crushing Ascendant; for the righteousness of the law, for the innocence of

¹ See above, p. 114, note 7 (Yt. IX, 18).

² Airyu, the youngest of the three sons of Thraêtaona (see p. 61, note 1), was killed by his brothers and avenged by his son Manusêithra, who succeeded Thraêtaona.

³ Kavâta, Kai Qobâd in the Shâh Nâmah, an adoptive son to Uzava, according to Bund. XXXI, 24.

⁴ Kai-Apîveh in the Bundahis; he was the son of Kai Qobâd.

⁵ Usadhan, Arshan, Pisanah, and Byârshan were the four sons of Aipivanghu; they are called in Firdausi Kai Kaus, Kai Arish, Kai Pashîn, and Kai Armîn. Kai Kaus alone came to the throne.

⁶ Syâvakhsh and Khosrav; see above, p. 64, note 1.

⁷ To become possessed of Strength, Victory, &c., as Husravah did.

the law, for the unconquerable power of the law; for the extermination of the enemies at one stroke;

134. And for the vigour of health, for the Glory made by Mazda, for the health of the body, and for a good, virtuous offspring, wise, chief in assemblies, bright, and clear-eyed, that frees [their father] from the pangs [of hell], of good intellect; and for that part in the blessed world that falls to wisdom and to those who do not follow impiety;

135. For a dominion full of splendour, for a long, long life, and for all boons and remedies; to withstand the Yâtus and Pairikas, the oppressors, the blind, and the deaf; to withstand the evil done by oppressors¹.

136. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Keresâspa², the Sâma³, the club-bearer with plaited hair; to withstand the dreadful arm and the hordes with the wide battle array, with the many spears, with the straight spears, with the spears uplifted, bearing the spears of havoc; to withstand the dreadful brigand who works destruction⁴, the man-slayer who has no mercy; to withstand the evil done by the brigand.

137. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Âkhrûra⁵, the son of Husravah;

To withstand the wicked one that deceives his friend and the niggard that causes the destruction of the world⁶.

¹ Like Frangrasyan; cf. p. 64, note 1.

² See Yt. V, 37; XV, 27; XIX, 38.

³ Belonging to the Sâma family (Yasna IX, 10).

⁴ Like the nine highwaymen killed by Keresâspa, Yt. XIX, 41.

⁵ Not mentioned in the Shâh Nâmah; Khosrav was succeeded by a distant relation, Lôhrasp.

⁶ An allusion to the lost legend of Âkhrûra; see, however, West, Pahlavi Texts, II, 375.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy and gallant Haoshyangha ;

To withstand the Mâzainya Daêvas and the Varenya fiends ; to withstand the evil done by the Daêvas ¹.

138. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Fradhâkhsti, the son of the jar ²,

To withstand Aêshma, the fiend of the wounding spear, and the Daêvas that grow through Aêshma ; to withstand the evil done by Aêshma.

XXX.

139. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Hvôvi ³.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frëni ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Thriti ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Pouruêista ⁴.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Hutaosa ⁵ ;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Huma ⁶.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Zairiêi.

¹ See Yt. V, 21-23.

² Khumbya, one of the immortals in *Hvaniratha* ; he resides in the Pêryânsaî plain : ' he is *Hvembya* for this reason, because they brought him up in a *hvemb* (jar) for fear of *Khashm*' (Bund. XXIX, 5). He answers pretty well to the *Agastya* and *Vasishtha* of the Vedic legend (see *Ormazd et Ahriman*, § 177).

³ One of the three wives of *Zarathustra*, the daughter of *Frasha-ostra* ; she is the supposed mother of *Saoshyant* and his brothers (see p. 195, note 2).

⁴ The three daughters of *Zarathustra* and sisters to *Isadvâstar* (see p. 204, note 1).

⁵ *Vîstâspa's* wife ; see Yt. IX, 26, and XVII, 46.

⁶ *Vîstâspa's* daughter, *Humâi*, in the *Shâh Nâmah*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Vtspa-
taurvashi.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ustavaiti.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Tusnâ-
maiti.

140. We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frëni,
the wife of Usenemah¹;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frëni, the
wife of the son of Frâyazanta²;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frëni, the
wife of the son of Khshôiwraspa³;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Frëni, the
wife of Gayadhâsti⁴.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Asabani,
the wife of Pourudhâkhti⁵.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy Ukhsh-
yeinti, the wife of Staotar-Vahistahê-Ashyêhê⁶.

141. We worship the Fravashi of the holy maid
Vadhût.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy maid
Gaghrûdh.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy maid
Franghâdh.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy maid Urû-
dhayant.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy maid Paê-
sanghanu.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Hvaredhi*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Hukêithra*.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy *Kanuka*.

¹ See § 113.

² Of Frënah or Garô-vanghu, § 113.

³ Of Khshathrô-kinah, § 112.

⁴ See § 112.

⁵ See § 111.

⁶ Ibid.

We worship the Fravashi of the holy maid *Srûtaƒ-fedhri*¹.

142. We worship the Fravashi of the holy maid *Vanghu-fedhri*²;

We worship the Fravashi of the holy maid *Eredat-fedhri*³, who is called *Vîspa-taurvairi*. She is *Vîspa-taurvairi* (the all-destroying) because she will bring him forth, who will destroy the malice of *Daêvas* and men, to withstand the evil done by the *Gahi*⁴.

143. We worship the Fravashis of the holy men in the Aryan countries;

We worship the Fravashis of the holy women in the Aryan countries.

We worship the Fravashis of the holy men in the Turanian countries⁵;

We worship the Fravashis of the holy women in the Turanian countries.

We worship the Fravashis of the holy men in the Sairimyan countries⁶;

¹ *Ukhshyaƒ-ereta*'s mother (see above, § 126); the *Saddar Bundayis* (*Études Iraniennes*, II, 209) calls her *Bad*, from the last part of her name (*fedhri* for *padhri*), and states that, bathing in Lake *Kâsava*, she will become pregnant from the seed of *Zarathustra*, that is preserved there (see above, p. 195, note 2), and she will bring forth a son, *Oshedar bâmî*.

² *Ukhshyaƒ-nemah*'s mother, called *Vah Bad* in the *Saddar*; she will conceive in the same way as *Srûtaƒ-fedhri*.

³ *Saoshyant*'s mother.

⁴ Cf. *Vend.* XIX, 5, and *Introd.* IV, 39-40.

⁵ *Gôgôsp* (a commentator to the *Avesta*) says, 'There are holy men in all religions, as appears from the words *tûiryanâm dahvyunâm* [We worship the Fravashis of the holy men in the Turanian countries],' (*Pahl. Comm. ad Vend.* III, end; and *Vend.* V, 38 [122]); cf. above, §§ 113, 123.

⁶ The countries inherited by *Sairima* (*Selm*), the third son of

We worship the Fravashis of the holy women in the Sairimyan countries.

144. We worship the Fravashis of the holy men in the Sâini countries¹;

We worship the Fravashis of the holy women in the Sâini countries.

We worship the Fravashis of the holy men in the Dâhi countries²;

We worship the Fravashis of the holy women in the Dâhi countries.

We worship the Fravashis of the holy men in all countries;

We worship the Fravashis of the holy women in all countries.

145. We worship all the good, awful, beneficent Fravashis of the faithful, from Gaya Maretan down to the victorious Saoshyant³. May the Fravashis of the faithful come quickly to us! May they come to our help!

146. They protect us when in distress with manifest assistance, with the assistance of Ahura Mazda and of the holy, powerful Sraosha, and with the Mâthra-Spen̄ta, the all-knowing, who hates the Daêvas with a mighty hate, a friend of Ahura Mazda, whom Zarathustra worshipped so greatly in the material world.

147. May the good waters and the plants and

Thraêtaona, as Turan and Iran were inherited by Tûra and Airyu. Selm's heritage was Rûm, that is to say, Europa and Western Asia.

¹ China (Bund. XV, 29).

² Perhaps the Dahae (Pliny VI, 17; Aeneis VIII, 728) or Δάαι (Strabo), called Ta-hia by Chinese geographers, on the south of the Oxus.

³ From the first man to the last.

the Fravashis of the faithful abide down here! May you be rejoiced and well received in this house! Here are the Âthravans of the countries¹, thinking of good holiness. Our hands are lifted up for asking help, and for offering a sacrifice unto you, O most beneficent Fravashis!

148. We worship the Fravashis of all the holy men and holy women whose souls are worthy of sacrifice², whose Fravashis are worthy of invocation.

We worship the Fravashis of all the holy men and holy women, our sacrificing to whom makes us good in the eyes of Ahura Mazda: of all of those we have heard that Zarathustra is the first and best, as a follower of Ahura and as a performer of the law.

149. We worship the spirit, conscience, perception, soul, and Fravashi³ of men of the primitive law⁴, of the first who listened to the teaching (of Ahura), holy men and holy women, who struggled for holiness⁵; we worship the spirit, conscience, perception, soul, and Fravashi of our next-of-kin, holy men and holy women, who struggled for holiness⁵.

150. We worship the men of the primitive law who will be in these houses, boroughs, towns, and countries;

We worship the men of the primitive law who have been in these houses, boroughs, towns, and countries;

We worship the men of the primitive law who are in these houses, boroughs, towns, and countries.

151. We worship the men of the primitive law

¹ Itinerant priests are received here.

² Doubtful.

³ Cf. p. 198, note 1.

⁴ The Paoiryô-*kaêsas*; see p. 180, note 1.

⁵ For the triumph of the Zoroastrian law.

in all houses, boroughs, towns, and countries, who obtained these houses, who obtained these boroughs, who obtained these towns, who obtained these countries, who obtained holiness, who obtained the Mâthra, who obtained the [blessedness of the] soul, who obtained all the perfections of goodness.

152. We worship Zarathustra, the lord and master of all the material world, the man of the primitive law; the wisest of all beings, the best-ruling of all beings, the brightest of all beings, the most glorious of all beings, the most worthy of sacrifice amongst all beings, the most worthy of prayer amongst all beings, the most worthy of propitiation amongst all beings, the most worthy of glorification amongst all beings, whom we call well-desired and worthy of sacrifice and prayer as much as any being can be, in the perfection of his holiness.

153. We worship this earth;

We worship those heavens;

We worship those good things that stand between (the earth and the heavens) and that are worthy of sacrifice and prayer and are to be worshipped by the faithful man.

154. We worship the souls of the wild beasts and of the tame¹.

We worship the souls of the holy men and women, born at any time, whose consciences struggle, or will struggle, or have struggled, for the good.

¹ Daitika, Persian دد; Neriosengh has 'that go by herds,' pañktiârin. Aïdyu; the Pahlavi translation has ayyâr, 'that are of help' (domesticated?); Neriosengh has misread it as suvâr and translated açvacârin. The expression daitika aïdyu answers to the Persian دد و دام, meaning all sorts of animals (see *Études Iraniennes*, II, 150).

155. We worship the spirit, conscience, perception, soul, and Fravashi of the holy men and holy women who struggle, will struggle, or have struggled, and teach the Law, and who have struggled for holiness.

Yêzhê hâtãm: All those beings to whom Ahura Mazda

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

156. The Fravashis of the faithful, awful and overpowering, awful and victorious; the Fravashis of the men of the primitive law; the Fravashis of the next-of-kin; may these Fravashis come satisfied into this house; may they walk satisfied through this house!

157. May they, being satisfied, bless this house with the presence of the kind Ashi Vanguhi! May they leave this house satisfied! May they carry back from here hymns and worship to the Maker, Ahura Mazda, and the Amesha-Speñtas! May they not leave this house of us, the worshippers of Mazda, complaining!

158. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of the awful, overpowering Fravashis of the faithful; of the Fravashis of the men of the primitive law; of the Fravashis of the next-of-kin.

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man¹ brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

¹ Who shall worship the Fravashis.

XIV. BAHRÂM YAST.

Regarding Bahrâm (Verethraghna), the Genius of Victory, see Vend. Introd. V, 8.

This Yast can be divided into four parts:—

I (§§ 1-28) An enumeration of the ten incarnations in which Verethraghna appeared to Zarathustra (as a wind, § 2; as a bull, § 7; as a horse, § 9; as a camel, § 11; as a boar, § 15; as a youth, § 17; as a raven, § 19; as a ram, § 23; as a buck, § 25; and as a man, § 27).

II (§§ 30-33). The powers given by Verethraghna to his worshipper, Zarathustra.

III (§§ 34-46). The magical powers, ascribed to the raven's feather, of striking terror into an army and dispersing it (the raven being the seventh incarnation of Verethraghna).

IV (§§ 47-64). The glorification of Verethraghna.

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness

Unto Verethraghna, made by Mazda, and unto the crushing Ascendant¹;

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I.

I. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda: 'Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

¹ Sîrôzah I, 20.

‘Who is the best-armed of the heavenly gods?’

Ahura Mazda answered: ‘It is Verethraghna, made by Ahura, O Spitama Zarathustra!’

2. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, came to him first, running in the shape of a strong, beautiful wind, made by Mazda; he bore the good Glory, made by Mazda, the Glory made by Mazda, that is both health and strength.

3. Then he, who is the strongest¹, said unto him²: ‘I am the strongest in strength; I am the most victorious in victory; I am the most glorious in Glory; I am the most favouring in favour; I am the best giver of welfare; I am the best-healing in health-giving.

4. ‘And I shall destroy the malice of all the malicious, the malice of Daêvas and men, of the Yâtus and Pairikas, of the oppressors, the blind, and the deaf.

5. ‘For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard; namely, unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura. We worship Verethraghna, made by Ahura, with an offering of libations, according to the primitive ordinances of Ahura; with the Haoma and meat, the baresma, the wisdom of the tongue, the holy spells, the speech, the deeds, the libations, and the rightly-spoken words.

‘Yêzhê hâtām: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda . . .

II.

6. ‘We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.’

¹ Verethraghna.

² Zarathustra.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda : ' Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One !

' Who is the best-armed of the heavenly gods ?'

Ahura Mazda answered : ' It is Verethraghna, made by Ahura, O Spitama Zarathustra !'

7. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, came to him the second time, running in the shape of a beautiful bull, with yellow ears and golden horns ; upon whose horns floated the well-shapen Strength, and Victory, beautiful of form, made by Ahura : thus did he come, bearing the good Glory, made by Mazda, the Glory made by Mazda, that is both health and strength.

Then he, who is the strongest, said unto him : ' I am the strongest in strength¹,

' And I shall destroy the malice of all malicious²'

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard³

III.

8. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda : ' Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One !

' Who is the best-armed of the heavenly gods ?'

Ahura Mazda answered : ' It is Verethraghna, made by Ahura, O Spitama Zarathustra !'

9. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, came to him the third time, running in the shape of a white, beautiful horse, with yellow ears and a golden caparison ; upon whose forehead floated the well-shapen Strength,

¹ As above, § 3. ² As above, § 4. ³ As above, § 5.

and Victory, beautiful of form, made by Ahura: thus did he come, bearing the good Glory, made by Mazda, that is both health and strength.

Then he, who is the strongest, said unto him: 'I am the strongest in strength

'And I shall destroy the malice of all malicious'

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

IV.

10. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda: 'Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

'Who is the best-armed of the heavenly gods?'

Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is Verethraghna, made by Ahura, O Spitama Zarathustra!'

11. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, came to him the fourth time, running in the shape of a burden-bearing¹ camel, sharp-toothed², swift³, stamping forwards, long-haired, and living in the abodes of men⁴;

12. Who of all males in rut shows greatest strength and greatest fire, when he goes to his females. Of all females those are best kept whom a burden-bearing camel keeps, who has thick forelegs and large humps,⁵, quick-eyed, long-headed, bright, tall, and strong;

13. Whose piercing look goes afar⁶, even in the dark of the night; who throws white foam

¹ Doubtful (*vadharôis*).

² ? *Urvatô*; cf. § 19.

³ ? *Smarsnô*.

⁴ Doubtful (*dadâsôis*).

⁵ Tame, domesticated.

⁶ ? *Haitahê*.

along his mouth ; well-kneed, well-footed, standing with the countenance of an all-powerful master :

Thus did Verethraghna come, bearing the good Glory made by Mazda, the Glory made by Mazda

V.

14. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda: 'Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

'Who is the best-armed of the heavenly gods?'

Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is Verethraghna, made by Ahura, O Spitama Zarathustra!'

15. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, came to him the fifth time, running in the shape of a boar, opposing the foes, a sharp-toothed he-boar, a sharp-jawed boar, that kills at one stroke, pursuing, wrathful, with a dripping face¹, strong, and swift to run, and rushing all around².

Thus did Verethraghna come, bearing the good Glory made by Mazda, the Glory made by Mazda

VI.

16. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda: 'Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

'Who is the best-armed of the heavenly gods?'

Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is Verethraghna, made by Ahura, O Spitama Zarathustra!'

¹ Cf. Yt. X, 70.

² Or better, rushing before. Cf. Yt. X, 127.

17. Verethraghna,¹ made by Ahura, came to him the sixth time, running in the shape of a beautiful youth of fifteen, shining, clear-eyed, thin-heeled.

Thus did Verethraghna come, bearing the good Glory made by Mazda, the Glory made by Mazda

VII.

18. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda: 'Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

'Who is the best-armed of the heavenly gods?'

Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is Verethraghna, made by Ahura, O Spitama Zarathustra!'

19. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, came to him the seventh time, running in the shape of a raven that¹ below and¹ above, and that is the swiftest of all birds, the lightest of the flying creatures.

20. He alone of living things,—he or none,—overtakes the flight of an arrow, however well it has been shot. He flies up joyfully at the first break of dawn, wishing the night to be no more, wishing the dawn, that has not yet come, to come².

21. He grazes the hidden ways³ of the mountains, he grazes the tops of the mountains, he grazes the depths of the vales, he grazes the summits⁴ of the trees, listening to the voices of the birds.

¹ ? Urvatô, pishatô.

² The raven was sacred to Apollo. The priests of the sun in Persia are said to have been named ravens (Porphyrius). Cf. *Georgica* I, 45.

³ Reading *vīgâtavô*.

⁴ Doubtful.

Thus did Verethraghna come, bearing the good Glory made by Mazda¹, the Glory made by Mazda

VIII.

22. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda : ' Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One !

' Who is the best-armed of the heavenly gods ?'

Ahura Mazda answered : ' It is Verethraghna, made by Ahura, O Spitama Zarathustra !'

23. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, came to him the eighth time, running in the shape of a wild, beautiful ram, with horns bent round².

Thus did Verethraghna come, bearing the good Glory made by Mazda³, the Glory made by Mazda

IX.

24. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda : ' Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One !

' Who is the best-armed of the heavenly gods ?'

Ahura Mazda answered : ' It is Verethraghna, made by Ahura, O Spitama Zarathustra !'

¹ The royal Glory is described flying in the shape of a raven, Yt. XIX, 35.

² Doubtful.

³ While Ardashîr, the founder of the Sasanian dynasty, was flying from Ardavân, a beautiful wild ram ran after him and overtook him, and Ardavân understood from this that the kingly Glory had left him and had passed over to his rival (Shâh Nâmah, Ardashîr ; Kâr Nâmakî Artachshîr, tr. Noeldeke, p. 45).

25. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, came to him the ninth time, running in the shape of a beautiful, fighting buck, with sharp horns.

Thus did Verethraghna come, bearing the good Glory made by Mazda, the Glory made by Mazda

X.

26. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda: 'Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

'Who is the best-armed of the heavenly gods?'

Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is Verethraghna, made by Ahura, O Spitama Zarathustra!'

27. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, came to him the tenth time, running in the shape of a man, bright and beautiful, made by Mazda: he held a sword with a golden blade, inlaid with all sorts of ornaments.

Thus did Verethraghna come, bearing the good Glory made by Mazda, the Glory made by Mazda

XI.

28. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura, who makes virility, who makes death, who makes resurrection, who possesses peace, who has a free way.

Unto him did the holy Zarathustra offer up a sacrifice, [asking] for victorious thinking, victorious speaking, victorious doing, victorious addressing, and victorious answering.

29. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, gave him the

fountains of manliness¹, the strength of the arms, the health of the whole body, the sturdiness of the whole body, and the eye-sight of the Kara fish², that lives beneath the waters and can measure³ a rippling of the water, not thicker than a hair, in the Rangha whose ends lie afar, whose depth is a thousand times the height of a man⁴.

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

XII.

30. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura, who makes virility, who makes death, who makes resurrection, who possesses peace, who has a free way.

Unto him did the holy Zarathustra offer up a sacrifice, [asking] for victorious thinking, victorious speaking, victorious doing, victorious addressing, and victorious answering.

31. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, gave him the fountains of manliness, the strength of the arms, the health of the whole body, the sturdiness of the whole body, and the eye-sight of the male horse, that, in the dark of the night, in its first half⁵ and through the rain, can perceive a horse's hair lying on the ground and knows whether it is from the head or from the tail⁶.

¹ Erezi, Pahl. gond (Old Zand-Pahlavi Dictionary, p. 11).

² See Vendidad XIX, 42.

³ Possibly, perceive.

⁴ Cf. Yt. XVI, 7, and Bundahis XVIII, 6: 'those fish know the scratch of a needle's point (or better hole) by which the water shall increase, or by which it is diminishing' (tr. West).

⁵ Avakhshaityau, the night before hu-vakhsha (before the time when the light begins to grow; midnight).

⁶ Cf. Yt. XVI, 10, and Bundahis XIX, 32: 'Regarding the Arab

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

XIII.

32. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura, who makes virility, who makes death, who makes resurrection, who possesses peace, who has a free way.

Unto him did the holy Zarathustra sacrifice, [asking] for victorious thinking, victorious speaking, victorious doing, victorious addressing, and victorious answering.

33. Verethraghna, made by Ahura, gave him the fountains of virility, the strength of the arms, the health of the whole body, the sturdiness of the whole body, and the eye-sight of the vulture with a golden collar¹, that, from as far as nine districts, can perceive a piece of flesh not thicker than the fist, giving just as much light as a needle gives, as the point of a needle gives².

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

XIV.

34. We sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda : ' Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One !

horse, they say that if, in a dark night, a single hair occurs on the ground, he sees it' (tr. West).

¹ Possibly the Gypaetus, the vulture doré.

² ' Even from his highest flight, he (the vulture) sees when flesh the size of a fist is on the ground' (Bund. XIX, 31 ; tr. West). Cf. Horapollon (I, 11).

‘If I have a curse thrown upon me, a spell told upon me by the many men who hate me, what is the remedy for it?’

35. Ahura Mazda answered : ‘Take thou a feather of that bird with¹ feathers, the *Vârengana*, O Spitama Zarathustra ! With that feather thou shalt rub thy own body², with that feather thou shalt curse back thy enemies.

36. ‘If a man holds a bone of that strong bird, or a feather of that strong bird, no one can smite or turn to flight that fortunate man. The feather of that bird of birds brings him help ; it brings unto him the homage of men, it maintains in him his glory.

37. ‘Then the sovereign, the lord of countries, will no longer kill his³ hundreds, though he is a killer of men ; the⁴ will not kill at one stroke ; he alone smites and goes forwards.

38. ‘All tremble before him who holds the feather, they tremble therefore before me ; all my enemies tremble before me and fear my strength and victorious force and the fierceness established in my body.

39. ‘He⁵ carries the chariot of the lords ; he carries the chariots of the lordly ones, the chariots of the sovereigns. He carried the chariot of Kavi

¹ Peshô-parena. The *Vârengana* is the same bird as the *Vâraghna*, the raven.

² The feather of the *Vârengana* plays here the same part as the *Sîmurgh’s* feather in the *Shâh Nâmâh*. When *Rûdâbah’s* flank was opened to bring forth *Rustem*, her wound was healed by rubbing it with a *Sîmurgh’s* feather ; *Rustem*, wounded to death by *Isfendyâr*, was cured in the same manner.

³ Of him who holds that feather.

⁴ ? *Vaêsaêpa*.

⁵ That bird.

Usa¹; upon his wings runs the male horse², runs the burden-bearing camel, runs the water of the river.

40. 'Him rode the gallant Thraêtaona, who smote Azi Dahâka, the three-mouthed, the three-headed, the six-eyed, who had a thousand senses; that most powerful, fiendish Drug, that demon, baleful to the world, the strongest Drug that Angra Mainyu created against the material world, to destroy the world of the good principle³.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

XV.

41. 'We sacrifice to Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

'Verethraghna confounds the glory of this house with its wealth in cattle. He is like that great bird, the Saêna⁴; he is like the big clouds, full of water, that beat the mountains.

'For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

XVI.

42. 'We sacrifice to Verethraghna, made by Ahura.'

Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda: 'Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

'Where is it that we must invoke the name of Verethraghna, made by Ahura? Where is it that

¹ Kai Kaus; when he tried to ascend to heaven on a throne carried by eagles (*Journal Asiatique*, 1881, I, 513).

² A metaphor to express the swiftness of the wind, of the camel, and of the rivers.

³ Cf. *Yt.* V, 34.

⁴ The *Simurgh*; cf. p. 241, note 2.

we must praise him? That we must humbly praise him?’

43. Ahura Mazda answered: ‘When armies meet together in full array, O Spitama Zarathustra! (asking) which of the two is the party that conquers¹ and is not crushed, that smites and is not smitten;

44. ‘Do thou throw¹ four feathers² in the way. Whichever of the two will first worship the well-shapen Strength, and Verethraghna, beautiful of form, made by Mazda, on his side will victory stand.

45. ‘I will bless Strength and Victory, the two keepers, the two good keepers, the two maintainers; the two who³, the two who³, the two who³; the two who forgive, the two who strike off, the two who forget⁴.

46. ‘O Zarathustra! let not that spell be shown to any one, except by the father to his son, or by the brother to his brother from the same womb, or by the Âthravan to his pupil⁵. These are words that are awful and powerful, awful and assembly-ruling, awful and victorious, awful and healing; these are words that save the head that was lost and chant away the uplifted weapon.’

XVII.

47. We sacrifice to Verethraghna, made by Ahura: who goes along the armies arrayed, and goes here

¹ Doubtful.

² Or an arrow feathered with four Vârengana's feathers.

³ Â-dhwaozen, vî-dhwaozen, fra-dhwaozen.

⁴ Âmarezen, cf. آمرزیدن; vîmarezen, cf. Yt. I, 2; fra marezen, cf. فرموش.

⁵ Cf. Yt. IV, 10.

and there asking, along with Mithra and Rashnu : 'Who is it who lies unto Mithra ? Who is it who thrusts [his oath] against Rashnu¹ ? To whom shall I, in my might, impart illness and death² ?'

48³. Ahura Mazda said : 'If men sacrifice unto Verethraghna, made by Ahura, if the due sacrifice and prayer is offered unto him just as it ought to be performed in the perfection of holiness, never will a hostile horde enter the Aryan countries, nor any plague, nor leprosy, nor venomous plants, nor the chariot of a foe, nor the uplifted spear of a foe.'

49⁴. Zarathustra asked : 'What is then, O Ahura Mazda ! the sacrifice and invocation in honour of Verethraghna, made by Ahura, as it ought to be performed in the perfection of holiness ?'

50. Ahura Mazda answered : 'Let the Aryan nations bring libations unto him ; let the Aryan nations tie bundles of baresma for him ; let the Aryan nations cook for him a head of cattle, either white, or black, or of any other colour, but all of one and the same colour.

51. 'Let not a murderer take of those offerings, nor a whore, nor a , who does not sing the Gâthâs, who spreads death in the world and withstands the law of Mazda, the law of Zarathustra.

52. 'If a murderer take of those offerings, or a whore, or a , who does not sing the Gâthâs, then Verethraghna, made by Ahura, takes back his healing virtues.

¹ Against truth.

² Cf. Yt. X, 108 seq.

³ § 48 ; cf. Yt. VIII, 56.

⁴ §§ 49-53 = Yt. VIII, 57-61.

53. 'Plagues will ever pour upon the Aryan nations; hostile hordes will ever fall upon the Aryan nations; the Aryans will be smitten by their fifties and their hundreds, by their hundreds and their thousands, by their thousands and their tens of thousands, by their tens of thousands and their myriads of myriads.'

54. There Verethraghna, made by Ahura, proclaimed thus: 'The Soul of the Bull¹, the wise creature, does not receive from man due sacrifice and prayer; for now the Daêvas and the worshippers of the Daêvas make blood flow and spill it like water;

55. 'For now the² Daêvas and the worshippers of the Daêvas bring to the fire the plant that is called Haperesi, the wood that is called Neme/ka³;

56. '(Therefore) when the² Daêvas and the worshippers of the Daêvas bow their backs, bend their waists, and arrange all their limbs⁴, they think they will smite and smite not, they think they will kill and kill not; and then the² Daêvas and the worshippers of the Daêvas have their minds confounded and their eyes made giddy⁵.'

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ Gôsrûn or Drvâspa; see Yt. IX. The destruction of any living being is an injury to Drvâspa.

² ? Vyâmbura.

³ The Haperesi and the Neme/ka are probably some species of green wood; it is forbidden to put green wood in the fire as it kills it, and injures the Genius of Water at the same time.

⁴ In order to strike.

⁵ The general meaning of the last four clauses is that the impious are defeated.

XVIII.

57. We sacrifice to Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

I offer up Haoma, who saves one's head¹; I offer up the victorious Haoma; I offer him up, the good protector; I offer up Haoma, who is a protector to my body, as a man who shall drink² of him shall win and prevail³ over his enemies in battle;

58. That I may smite this army, that I may smite down this army, that I may cut in pieces this army that is coming behind me.

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

XIX.

59. We sacrifice to Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

The prince and his son and his sons who are chiefs of myriads⁴ offer him up a bright⁵ [saying]: 'He is strong, and Victorious is his name; he is victorious, and Strong is his name;'

60. That I may be as constantly victorious as any one of all the Aryans⁶; that I may smite this army, that I may smite down this army, that I may cut in pieces this army that is coming behind me.

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ ? Sâiri-baoghem; cf. § 46.

² Nivazaiti; literally, swallow (? frôt ô bun burtan, Vend. V, 8 [26]).

³ Literally, overtake.

⁴ Cf. Yt. V, 85.

⁵ ? Asânem sighûirê.

⁶ Cf. Yt. V, 69.

XX.

61. We sacrifice to Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

In the ox is our strength, in the ox is our need¹; in the ox is our speech, in the ox is our victory; in the ox is our food, in the ox is our clothing; in the ox is tillage, that makes food grow for us.

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXI.

62. We sacrifice to Verethraghna, made by Ahura;

Who breaks the columns asunder, who cuts the columns to pieces, who wounds the columns, who makes the columns shake; who comes and breaks the columns asunder, who comes and cuts the columns to pieces, who comes and wounds the columns, who comes and makes the columns shake, both of Daêvas and men, of the Yâtus and Pairikas, of the oppressors, the blind, and the deaf.

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

XXII.

63. We sacrifice to Verethraghna, made by Ahura.

When Verethraghna, made by Ahura, binds the hands, confounds the eye-sight, takes the hearing

¹ From Yasna X, 20 (62), where, instead of the words, 'in the ox is our strength (amem), in the ox is our need,' the text has, 'in the ox is his need, in the ox is our need,' meaning, 'when we give him his need (water and grass), he gives us our need (milk and calves),' (Pahl. tr.).

from the ears of the Mithradru¹ges marching in columns, allied by cities, they can no longer move their feet, they can no longer withstand.

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

64. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of Verethraghna, made by Mazda; and of the crushing Ascendant.

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man² brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

¹ See p. 120, note 2.

² Who shall offer a sacrifice to Verethraghna.

XV. RÂM YAST.

This Yast bears the name of Râma *Hvâstra*, the Genius who presides over the 21st day of the month (Sîrôzah, § 21), and is devoted to his Hamkâr, Vayu.

Regarding Râma *Hvâstra*, the Genius that gives good abodes and good pastures, and his connection with Vayu, see Vend. Introd. IV, and *Études Iraniennes*, II, 187.

This Yast can be divided into two parts. The first part (§§ 1-140) contains an enumeration of worshippers who sacrificed to Vayu: Ahura Mazda (§ 2), Haoshyangha (§ 7), Takhma Urupa (§ 11), Yima (§ 15), Azi Dahâka (§ 19), Thraêtaona (§ 23), Keresâspa (§ 27), Aurvasâra (§ 31), Hutaosa (§ 35), and Iranian maids (§ 39). The second part (§§ 42-58) contains a special enumeration and glorification of the many names of Vayu (§§ 42-50).

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas, and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness

Unto Râma *Hvâstra*, unto Vayu who works highly and is more powerful to afflict than all other creatures¹,

Be propitiation from me, for sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I.

1. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them². I will sacrifice to Peace, whose breath is friendly, and to Weal, both of them.

¹ Cf. Sîrôzah I, 21.

² Apâm Napât (Yt. VIII, 34) or Tistrya (Yt. VIII, 1).

To this Vayu do we sacrifice,* this Vayu do we invoke, for this house, for the master of this house, and for the man here who is offering libations and giving gifts. To this excellent God do we sacrifice, that he may accept our meat and our prayers, and grant us in return to crush our enemies at one stroke.

2¹. To him did the Maker, Ahura Mazda, offer up a sacrifice in the Airyana Vaêgah¹, on a golden throne, under golden beams² and a golden canopy, with bundles of baresma and offerings of full-boiling [milk]³.

3. He begged of him a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O Vayu! who dost work highly⁴, that I may smite the creation of Angra Mainyu, and that nobody may smite this creation of the Good Spirit!'

4. Vayu, who works highly, granted him that boon, as the Maker, Ahura Mazda, did pursue it.

5. We sacrifice to the holy Vayu: we sacrifice to Vayu, who works highly.

To this part of thee do we sacrifice, O Vayu! that belongs to Spenta Mainyu⁵.

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard, namely, unto the awful Vayu, who works highly. We offer up a sacrifice unto the awful Vayu, who works highly, with the libations, with the Haoma and meat, with the baresma, with the wisdom of the tongue, with the

¹ Cf. Yt. V, 17.

² Fraspât, Persian فرسب.

³ Cf. p. 169, note 5.

⁴ See p. 10, note 4.

⁵ As Vayu, the atmosphere, is the place in which the conflict of the two principles takes place, one part of him belongs to the Evil Spirit (see Vend. Introd. IV, 17).

holy spells, the words, the deeds, the libations, and the well-spoken words.

Yênhê hâtâm: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda

II.

6. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them

To this Vayu do we sacrifice, this Vayu do we invoke¹

7. To him did Haoshyangha, the Paradhâta, offer up a sacrifice on the Taêra of the Hara, bound with iron², on a golden throne, under golden beams and a golden canopy, with bundles of baresma and offerings of full-boiling [milk].

8. He begged of him a boon, saying: 'Grant me, O Vayu! who dost work highly, that I may smite two-thirds of the Daêvas of Mâzana and of the fiends of Varena³.'

9. Vayu, who works highly, granted him that boon, as the Maker, Ahura Mazda⁴, did pursue it.

We sacrifice to the holy Vayu

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

III.

10. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them

To this Vayu do we sacrifice, this Vayu do we invoke

¹ The rest as in clause 1.

² Cf. Yt. V, 21, p. 58, note 2.

³ Cf. Yt. V, 21-23.

⁴ Introduced from § 4 into this and all similar clauses, except the one relating to Azi Dahâka (§ 21).

11. To him did Takhma Urupa¹, the well-armed², offer up a sacrifice on a golden throne, under golden beams and a golden canopy, with bundles of baresma and offerings of full-boiling [milk].

12. He begged of him a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O Vayu! who dost work highly, that I may conquer all Daêvas and men, all the Yâtus and Pairikas, and that I may ride Angra Mainyu, turned into the shape of a horse, all around the earth from one end to the other, for thirty years.'

13. Vayu, who works highly, granted him that boon³, as the Maker, Ahura Mazda, did pursue it.

We sacrifice to the holy Vayu

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

IV.

14. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them

To this Vayu do we sacrifice, this Vayu do we invoke

15. Unto him did the bright Yima, the good shep-

¹ Takhma Urupa (in later legend Tahmûrâf) was a brother to Yima. He reigned for thirty years and rode Ahriman, turned into a horse. But at last his wife, deceived by Ahriman, revealed to him the secret of her husband's power, and Tahmûrâf was swallowed up by his horse. But Yima managed to take back his brother's body from the body of Ahriman and recovered thereby the arts and civilisation which had disappeared along with Tahmûrâf (see Minokhired XXVII, 32; Ravâet apud Spiegel, Einleitung in die traditionelle Literatur, pp. 317 seq.; Ormazd et Ahriman, § 137 seq.; cf. above, p. 60, note 1).

² *Azinavant* or *zaênahvant*: he kept that epithet in later tradition: *Zînavend*, 'quod cognomen virum significat armis probe instructum' (Hamza Ispahensis, p. 20, tr. Gottwaldt).

³ As told Yt. XIX, 29.

herd, sacrifice from the height Hukairya, the all-shining and golden, on a golden throne, under golden beams and a golden canopy, with bundles of baresma and offerings of full-boiling [milk].

16. He begged of him a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O Vayu! who dost work highly, that I may become the most glorious of the men born to behold the sun: that I may make in my reign both animals and men undying, waters and plants undrying, and the food for eating creatures never-failing¹.'

In the reign of the valiant Yima there was neither cold wind nor hot wind, neither old age nor death, nor envy made by the Daêvas².

17. Vayu, who works highly, granted him that boon, as the Maker, Ahura Mazda, did pursue it.

We sacrifice to the holy Vayu

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

V.

18. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them

To this Vayu do we sacrifice, this Vayu do we invoke

19. Unto him did the three-mouthed Azi Dahâka offer up a sacrifice in his accursed palace of Kvirinta³,

¹ Cf. Yasna IX, 4-5 (11-20) and Yt. XIX, 31 seq.

² This passage is interpolated from Yasna IX, 5 (17-19).

³ Or, 'his accursed palace of the Stork' (upa kvirintem duzitem), 'Azi Dahâka,' says Hamza (p. 32 in the text, p. 22 in the translation), 'used to live in Babylon (cf. Yt. V, 29), where he had built a palace in the form of a stork; he called it Kuleng Dis (کلنگ دیس), the fortress of the Stork; the inhabitants called it Dis Het (دیس حت).' Kuleng Dis was in Zend Kvirinta daêza and Dis Het is nothing else than Duzita. One may doubt

on a golden throne, under golden beams and a golden canopy, with bundles of baresma and offerings of full-boiling [milk].

20. He begged of him a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O Vayu! who dost work highly, that I may make all the seven Karshvares of the earth empty of men¹.'

21. In vain did he sacrifice, in vain did he beg, in vain did he invoke, in vain did he give gifts, in vain did he bring libations; Vayu did not grant him that boon.

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

VI.

22. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them

To this Vayu do we sacrifice, this Vayu do we invoke

23. Unto him did Thraêtaona, the heir of the valiant Âthwya clan, offer up a sacrifice in the four-cornered Varena, on a golden throne, under golden beams and a golden canopy, with bundles of baresma and offerings of full-boiling [milk].

24. He begged of him a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O Vayu! who dost work highly, that I may overcome Azi Dahâka, the three-mouthed, the three-headed, the six-eyed, who has a thousand senses, that most powerful, fiendish Drug, that

whether *Kvirinta* is the name of a place or the Zend form of *Kuleng*, a stork: in any case it was a palace in Bawri (Babylon). In the *Shâh Nâmah* it is called *Dizukht* (*duz-ukhta* for *duz-ita*; see *Études Iraniennes*, II, 211).

¹ Cf. *Yt. V*, 30 seq.

demon baleful to the world, the strongest Drug that Angra Mainyu created against the material world, to destroy the world of the good principle; and that I may deliver his two wives, Savanghavâk and Erenavâk, who are the fairest of body amongst women, and the most wonderful creatures in the world¹.

25. Vayu, who works highly, granted him that boon, as the Maker, Ahura Mazda, did pursue it.

We sacrifice to the holy Vayu

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

VII.

26. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them

To this Vayu do we sacrifice, this Vayu do we invoke

27. To him did the manly-hearted Keresâspa² offer up a sacrifice by the Gudha³, a channel of the Rangha, made by Mazda, upon a golden throne, under golden beams and a golden canopy, with bundles of baresma and offerings of full-boiling [milk].

28. He begged of him a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O Vayu! who dost work highly, that I may succeed in avenging my brother Urvâkhshaya⁴, that I may smite Hitâspa and yoke him to my chariot.'

The Gandarewa, who lives beneath the waters,

¹ Yt. V, 34; IX, 14; XVII, 34.

² Cf. Yt. V, 37 seq.

³ An unknown affluent of the Rangha (Tigris).

⁴ Sâma had two sons, Keresâspa, a warrior, and Urvâkhshaya, a judge and law-giver (Yasna IX, 10 [29 seq.]). We have no further details about Urvâkhshaya's legend than that he was killed by 'Hitâspa, the golden-crowned' (cf. Yt. XIX, 41), and avenged by Keresâspa.

is the son of Ahura in the deep, he is the only master of the deep¹.

29. Vayu, who works highly, granted him that boon, as the Maker, Ahura Mazda, did pursue it.

We sacrifice to the holy Vayu

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

VIII.

30. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them

To this Vayu do we sacrifice, this Vayu do we invoke

31. To him did Aurvasâra², the lord of the country, offer up a sacrifice, towards the White Forest³, by the White Forest, on the border of the White Forest, on a golden throne, under golden beams and a golden canopy, with bundles of baresma and offerings of full-boiling [milk].

32. He begged of him a boon, saying : ' Grant me this, O Vayu ! who dost work highly, that the gallant Husravah, he who unites the Aryan nations into one kingdom⁴, may not smite us ; that I may flee from king Husravah⁵ ;

¹ A disconnected allusion to the struggle of Keresâspa with the Gandarewa (Yt. V, 38, text and notes ; XIX, 41). On the words ' the son of Ahura ' cf. Ormazd et Ahriman, p. 215, note 1.

² No other mention is made of Aurvasâra in the Avesta, unless he is alluded to in Yt. V, 50. He does not appear to have been known to Firdausi.

³ Spaêtinis razûra is called ' the chief of forests ' (Bund. XXIV, 16). According to the Bahman Yast (III, 9), it was the seat of the last and decisive battle between Argâsp and Gûstâsp.

⁴ Cf. Yt. V, 49 ; IX, 21.

⁵ Cf. Yt. V, 50.

'That king Husravah and all the Aryans in the Forest may smite him¹.'

33. Vayu, who works highly, granted him that boon, as the Maker, Ahura Mazda, did pursue it.

We sacrifice to the holy Vayu

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

IX.

34. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them

To this Vayu do we sacrifice, this Vayu do we invoke

35. To him did Hutaosa, she of the many brothers², of the Naotara house³, offer up a sacrifice, on a golden throne, under golden beams and a golden canopy, with bundles of baresma and offerings of boiling milk.

36. She begged of him a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O Vayu! who dost work highly, that I may be dear and loved and well-received in the house of king Vistâspa.'

37. Vayu, who works highly, granted her that boon, as the Maker, Ahura Mazda, did pursue it.

We sacrifice to the holy Vayu

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

X.

38. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them

¹ This line looks as if it should belong to a counter-prayer by Husravah, which was heard by Vayu, as appears from Yt. V, 50.

² See Yt. IX, 26.

³ See p. 77, note 1.

To this Vayu do we sacrifice, this Vayu do we invoke

39. To him did¹ the maids, whom no man had known, offer up a sacrifice on a golden throne, under golden beams and a golden canopy, with bundles of baresma and offerings of boiling milk.

40. They begged of him a boon, saying: 'Grant us this, O Vayu! who dost work highly, that we may find a husband, young and beautiful of body, who will treat us well, all life long, and give us offspring; a wise, learned, ready-tongued husband.'

41. Vayu, who works highly, granted them that boon, as the Maker, Ahura Mazda, did pursue it.

We sacrifice to the holy Vayu

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

XI.

42. I will sacrifice to the Waters and to Him who divides them

To this Vayu do we sacrifice, this Vayu do we invoke

We sacrifice to that Vayu that belongs to the Good Spirit², the bright and glorious Vayu.

43. My name is Vayu, O holy Zarathustra! My name is Vayu, because I go through (vyêmi) the two worlds³, the one which the Good Spirit has

¹ It may be doubted whether the allusion here is to a legend of marriage en masse, following the marriage of Hutaosa with Vîstâspa, or whether the aorist is used with an indicative meaning: 'To him do the maids who have known no man They beg of him a boon, saying' Cf. Yt. XVI, 17.

² Cf. § 5, note 5.

³ An attempt to an etymological explanation of the name Vayu. Cf. § 53.

made and the one which the Evil Spirit has made.

My name is the Overtaker (apaêta), O holy Zarathustra! My name is the Overtaker, because I can overtake the creatures of both worlds, the one that the Good Spirit has made and the one that the Evil Spirit has made.

44. My name is the All-smiting, O holy Zarathustra! My name is the All-smiting, because I can smite the creatures of both worlds, the one that the Good Spirit has made and the one that the Evil Spirit has made.

My name is the Worker of Good, O holy Zarathustra! My name is the Worker of Good, because I work the good of the Maker, Ahura Mazda, and of the Amesha-Spentas¹.

45. My name is He that goes forwards.

My name is He that goes backwards.

My name is He that bends backwards.

My name is He that hurls away.

My name is He that hurls down.

My name is He that destroys.

My name is He that takes away.

My name is He that finds out.

My name is He that finds out the Glory (*Hvarenô*).

46. My name is the Valiant; my name is the Most Valiant.

My name is the Strong; my name is the Strongest.

My name is the Firm; my name is the Firmest.

My name is the Stout; my name is the Stoutest.

My name is He that crosses over easily.

My name is He that goes along hurling away.

¹ He is their agent and instrument.

My name is He that crushes at one stroke.

My name is¹

My name is He that works against the Daêvas.

My name is²

47. My name is He that prevails over malice ; my name is He that destroys malice.

My name is He that unites ; my name is He that re-unites ; my name is He that separates.

My name is the Burning ; my name is the Quick of intelligence³.

My name is Deliverance ; my name is Welfare⁴.

My name is the Burrow⁵ ; my name is He who destroys the burrows⁵ ; my name is He who spits upon the burrows⁵.

48. My name is Sharpness of spear ; my name is He of the sharp spear.

My name is Length of spear ; my name is He of the long spear.

My name is Piercingness of spear ; my name is He of the piercing spear.

My name is the Glorious ; my name is the Overglorious.

49⁶. Invoke these names of mine, O holy Zarathustra ! in the midst of the havocking hordes, in the midst of the columns moving forwards, in the strife of the conflicting nations.

¹ Âiniva (?).

² Keredharisa (?).

³ Doubtful ; *baokâ*, cf. *بوز*.

⁴ Reading *sudhis*.

⁵ *Geredha* is the burrow of an Ahrimanic creature (see Vend. III, 10 [33] ; VII, 24 [61]) : *Vayu*, in that half of him that belongs to the Evil Spirit, is the seat (the burrow) of Ahriman ; but with his better half, he struggles against the fiend and destroys him.

⁶ Cf. Yt. I, 11, 16.

50. Invoke these names of mine, O holy Zarathustra! when the all-powerful tyrant of a country falls upon thee, rushes upon thee, deals wounds upon thee, or hurls his chariot against thee, to rob thee¹ of thy wealth, to rob thee of thy health.

51. Invoke these names of mine, O holy Zarathustra! when the unholy Ashemaogha falls upon thee, rushes upon thee, deals wounds upon thee, or hurls his chariot against thee, to rob thee of thy strength, to rob thee of thy wealth, to rob thee of thy health.

52. Invoke these names of mine, O holy Zarathustra! when a man stands in bonds, when a man is being thrown into bonds, or when a man is being dragged in bonds: thus the prisoners flee from the hands of those who carry them, they flee away out of the prison².

53. O thou Vayu! who strikest fear upon all men and horses, who in all creatures workest against the Daêvas, both into the lowest places and into those a thousand times deep dost thou enter with equal power³.

54. 'With what manner of sacrifice shall I worship thee? With what manner of sacrifice shall I forward and worship thee? With what manner of sacrifice will be achieved thy adoration, O great Vayu! thou who art high-up girded, firm, swift-moving, high-footed, wide-breasted, wide-thighed, with untrembling eyes, as powerful in sovereignty as any absolute sovereign in the world?'

¹ Literally, coveting.

² The translation of this clause is doubtful; the text is corrupt.

³ Cf. § 42.

55. 'Take thou a baresma, O holy Zarathustra! turn it upwards or downwards, according as it is full day or dawning; upwards during the day, downwards at the dawn¹.

56. 'If thou makest me worshipped with a sacrifice, then I shall say unto thee with my own voice things of health, made by Mazda and full of glory, so that Angra Mainyu may never do harm unto thee, nor the Yâtus, nor those addicted to the works of the Yâtu, whether Daêvas or men.'

57. We sacrifice unto thee, O great Vayu! we sacrifice unto thee, O strong Vayu!

We sacrifice unto Vayu, the greatest of the great; we sacrifice unto Vayu, the strongest of the strong.

We sacrifice unto Vayu, of the golden helm.

We sacrifice unto Vayu, of the golden crown.

We sacrifice unto Vayu, of the golden necklace.

We sacrifice unto Vayu, of the golden chariot.

We sacrifice unto Vayu, of the golden wheel.

We sacrifice unto Vayu, of the golden weapons.

We sacrifice unto Vayu, of the golden garment.

We sacrifice unto Vayu, of the golden shoe.

We sacrifice unto Vayu, of the golden girdle.

We sacrifice unto the holy Vayu; we sacrifice unto Vayu, who works highly.

To this part of thee do we sacrifice, O Vayu! that belongs to the Good Spirit.

For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard, namely, unto the awful Vayu, who works highly

58. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and invocation unto, and the

¹ Études Iraniennes, II, 110.

strength and vigour of Râma *Hvâstra*, and Vayu, who works highly, more powerful to afflict than all the other creatures: this part of thee that belongs to the Good Spirit.

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

XVI. DĪN YAST.

Dīn (Daēna) presides over the 24th day of the month (Sīrōzah 24) and gives it her name; she is invoked in company with Kīsta, and in fact this Yast, though it bears the name of Daēna, is consecrated to Kīsta (§§ 2, 7). These two Genii are, however, very closely connected in their nature, as Daēna is the impersonation of the Zoroastrian Law or Religion, and Kīsta is religious knowledge, the knowledge of what leads to bliss (*fargānak*, *nirvānagñāna*; the same as Kīsti).

The description of Kīsta is rather pallid, and does not rise above abstractions (see, however, *Mihir Yast*, § 126). She was not worshipped by the old epic heroes as Anāhita was, but by Zarathustra and his wife, because she must have been, from her very name and nature, a goddess of Zoroastrian origin and growth.

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daēvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hāvani], the holy and master of holiness

To the most right Kīsta, made by Mazda and holy, and to the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda,

Be propitiation from me, for sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I.

1. We sacrifice to the most right Kīsta, made by Mazda and holy: we sacrifice to the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda, the supplier of good

stores, who runs quickly to the goal and frees one best from dangers¹, who brings libations, who is holy, clever, and renowned, speedy to work and quick of work ; who goes quickly and cleanses well ; the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda ;

2. To whom Zarathustra did sacrifice, saying : ' Rise up from thy seat, come forward from the Abode², thou most right *Kīsta*, made by Mazda and holy. If thou art before me, stay for me ; if thou art behind me, overtake me.

3. ' Let everything be as friendly to us as anything can be : may we go smoothly along the roads, find good pathways in the mountains, run easily through the forests, and cross happily the rivers !'

4. For her brightness and glory, I will offer unto her a sacrifice worth being heard, namely, unto the most right *Kīsta*, made by Mazda and holy. I will offer up a sacrifice unto the most right *Kīsta*, made by Mazda and holy, with the libations, with the Haoma and meat, with the baresma, with the wisdom of the tongue, with the holy spells, with the words and deeds, with the libations, with the well-spoken words.

Yêzhê hâtâm : All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda

II.

5. We sacrifice to the most right *Kīsta*, made by Mazda and holy : we sacrifice to the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda³

¹ Reading *nimarezista* ; cf. *vīmarezistem*, Yt. I, 2.

² The heavenly abode, the *Garôthmân*.

³ The rest as in § 1.

6. To whom Zarathustra did sacrifice for righteousness of thought, for righteousness of speech, for righteousness of deed, and for this boon,

7. That the most right *Kista*, made by Mazda and holy, would give him the swiftness of the feet, the quick hearing of the ears, the strength of the arms, the health of the whole body, the sturdiness of the whole body, and the eye-sight of the Kara fish, that lives beneath the waters, and can measure a rippling of the waters not thicker than a hair, in the Rangha, whose ends lie afar and whose depth is a thousand times the height of a man¹.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer unto her a sacrifice worth being heard

III.

8. We sacrifice to the most right *Kista*, made by Mazda and holy: we sacrifice to the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda

9. To whom Zarathustra did sacrifice for righteousness of thought, for righteousness of speech, for righteousness of deed, and for this boon,

10. That the most right *Kista*, made by Mazda and holy, would give him the swiftness of the feet, the quick hearing of the ears, the strength of the arms, the health of the whole body, the sturdiness of the whole body, and the eye-sight of the male horse, that, in the dark of the night, through the rain, the snow, the hail, or the sleet, from as far as nine districts, can perceive a horse's hair, mingled with the earth, and knows whether it is from the head or from the tail².

¹ Cf. Yt. XIV, 29.

² Cf. Yt. XIV, 31.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer unto her a sacrifice worth being heard

IV.

11. We sacrifice to the most right *Kista*, made by Mazda and holy: we sacrifice to the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda

12. To whom Zarathustra did sacrifice for righteousness of thought, for righteousness of speech, for righteousness of deed, and for this boon,

13. That the most right *Kista*, made by Mazda and holy, would give him the swiftness of the feet, the quick hearing of the ears, the strength of the arms, the health of the whole body, the sturdiness of the whole body, and the eye-sight of the vulture with a golden collar, that, from as far as nine districts, can perceive a piece of flesh, not thicker than a fist, giving just as much light as a needle gives, as the point of a needle gives¹.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer unto her a sacrifice worth being heard

V.

14. We sacrifice to the most right *Kista*, made by Mazda and holy: we sacrifice to the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda

15. To whom the holy *Hvôvi*² did sacrifice with full knowledge, wishing that the holy Zarathustra would give her his good narcotic³, that she might

¹ Cf. Yt. XIV, 33.

² Zarathustra's wife.

³ *Bangha*; the so-called *Bang* of Zoroaster (Vend. XV, 14 [44]; Phl. tr.). What must have been its virtue may be gathered from the legends of *Gûstâsp* and *Ardâ Vîrâf*, who are said to have been transported in soul to the heavens, and to have had the higher

think according to the law, speak according to the law, and do according to the law.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer unto her a sacrifice worth being heard

VI.

16. We sacrifice to the most right *Kista*, made by Mazda and holy : we sacrifice to the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda

17. To whom the *Âthravans*, sent afar¹, did sacrifice², wishing a good memory to preach the law, and wishing strength for their own body.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer unto her a sacrifice worth being heard

VII.

18. We sacrifice to the most right *Kista*, made by Mazda and holy : we sacrifice to the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda

19. To whom the king of the country, the lord of the country does sacrifice, wishing peace for his country, wishing strength for his own body.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer unto her a sacrifice worth being heard

20. *Yathâ ahû vairyô* : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength

mysteries revealed to them, on drinking from a cup prepared by the prophet (*Zardust Nâmah*), or from a cup of *Gûstâsp-bang* (*Ardâ Vîrâf*, II, 29).

¹ The itinerant priests, the ancestors of the modern dervishes.

² Or better, do sacrifice ; cf. *Yt. XIV, 39*.

and vigour of the most right *K'ista*, made by Mazda and holy, and of the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda.

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, give him long, long life, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

XVII. ASHI YAST.

Ashi Vanguhi or 'the good Ashi'¹ is a feminine impersonation of piety², and she is, at the same time, the source of all the good and riches that are connected with piety³. She is described, therefore, as a goddess of Fortune and Wealth, and is invoked in company with Pârendi, the goddess of Treasures (Sîrôzah 25)

She appears in the latter character in the first part of the Yast (§§ 1-14); she praises and loves Zarathustra (§§ 15-21). She is worshipped by Haosyangha (§ 26), Yima (§ 28), Thraêtaona (§ 33), Haoma (§ 37), Husravah (§ 41), Zarathustra (§ 45), and Vîstâspa (§ 49)⁴. She rejects the offerings of all sterile people (old men, courtezans, and children, §§ 53-61).

I.

1. We sacrifice to Ashi Vanguhi, who is shining, high, tall-formed, well worthy of sacrifice, with a loud-sounding chariot, strong, welfare-giving, healing, with fulness of intellect⁵, and powerful;

2. The daughter of Ahura Mazda, the sister of the Amesha-Spentas, who endows all the Sao-

¹ In Parsi Ardisvang or Ard (Ardis from Artis, the Persian form of Ashis); she presides over the 25th day of the month; cf. Sîrôzah 25.

² Ashi is not the feminine adjective of Asha, as the i was originally short (genitive ashôis, not ashyzu); ashi is ar-ti, and means bhakti, piety (Neriosengh).

³ The so-called Ashi's remedies (ashôis baêshaza; cf. Yt. XIII, 32).

⁴ This enumeration is the same as in the Gôd Yast (§§ 3, 8, 14, 17, 21, 26, 29).

⁵ Perethu-vîra; see *Études Iraniennes*, II, 183.

shyants¹ with the enlivening intelligence; she also brings heavenly wisdom at her wish, and comes to help him who invokes her from near and him who invokes her from afar, and worships her with offerings of libations.

3². For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard; I will offer up unto Ashi Vanguhi a good sacrifice with an offering of libations. We sacrifice unto Ashi Vanguhi with the libations; with the Haoma and meat, with the baresma, with the wisdom of the tongue, with the holy spells, with the words, with the deeds, with the libations, and with the rightly-spoken words.

Yênhê hâtãm: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda

II.

4. We sacrifice to Ashi Vanguhi, who is shining, high, tall-formed, well worthy of sacrifice, with a loud-sounding chariot, strong, welfare-giving, healing, with fulness of intellect, and powerful.

5. Homage unto Haoma, and unto the Mâthra³, and unto the holy Zarathustra!

Homage unto Haoma, because all other drinks are attended with Aêshma⁴, the fiend of the wounding spear: but the drinking of Haoma is attended with Asha and with Ashi Vanguhi herself⁵.

6. Ashi is fair; Ashi is radiant with joy; she is far-piercing with her rays. Ashi gives good Glory

¹ The allies of Saoshyant, who are to be active in the restoration of the world to eternal life (frashô-kereti). Cf. p. 165, note 1. Ashi gives them the 'intelligence of life' (frasha khratu), through which they will be enabled to perform their task.

² Cf. Yt. V, 10.

³ The Holy Word.

⁴ The Daêva of anger.

⁵ As drinking Haoma is an act of religion (cf. Yasna XI, 12 [31] seq.).

unto those men whom thou dost follow, O Ashi! Full of perfumes is the house in which the good, powerful Ashi Vanguhi puts her . . .¹ feet, for long friendship.

7. Those men whom thou dost attend, O Ashi! are kings of kingdoms, that are rich in horses, with large tributes, with snorting horses, sounding chariots, flashing swords, rich in aliments and in stores of food²; well-scented where the beds are spread and full of all the other riches that may be wished for. Happy the man whom thou dost attend! do thou attend me, thou rich in all sorts of desirable things and strong!

8. Those men whom thou dost attend, O Ashi Vanguhi! have houses that stand well laid up, rich in cattle, foremost in Asha, and long-supported. Happy the man whom thou dost attend! Do thou attend me, thou rich in all sorts of desirable things and strong!

9. The men whom thou dost attend, O Ashi Vanguhi! have beds that stand well-spread, well-adorned, well-made, provided with cushions and with feet inlaid with gold. Happy the man whom thou dost attend! Do thou attend me, thou rich in all sorts of desirable things and strong!

10. The men whom thou dost attend, O Ashi Vanguhi! have their ladies that sit on their beds, waiting for them: they lie on the cushions, adorning themselves, . . .³, with square bored ear-rings and a necklace of gold: 'When will our lord come? when shall we enjoy in our bodies the joys of love?'

¹ ? Âgairimaitis.

² Cf. Yt. V, 130.

³ ? Ankupasmanau.

Happy the man whom thou dost attend! Do thou attend me, thou rich in all sorts of desirable things and strong!

11. The men whom thou dost attend, O Ashi Vanguhi! have daughters that sit¹; thin is their waist, beautiful is their body, long are their fingers; they are as fair of shape as those who look on can wish. Happy the man whom thou dost attend! Do thou attend me, thou rich in all sorts of desirable things and strong!

12. The men whom thou dost attend, O Ashi Vanguhi! have horses swift and loud-neighing; they drive the chariot lightly, they take it to the battle², they bear a gallant praiser (of the gods), who has many horses, a solid chariot, a sharp spear, a long spear, and swift arrows, who hits his aim, pursuing after his enemies, and smiting his foes. Happy the man whom thou dost attend! Do thou attend me, thou rich in all sorts of desirable things and strong!

13. The men whom thou dost attend, O Ashi Vanguhi! have large-humped, burden-bearing camels, flying from the ground or fighting with holy fierceness³. Happy the man whom thou dost attend! Do thou attend me, thou rich in all sorts of desirable things and strong!

14. The men whom thou dost attend, O Ashi Vanguhi! have hoards of silver and gold brought together from far distant regions; and garments of splendid make. Happy the man whom thou dost attend! Do thou attend me, thou rich in all sorts of desirable things and strong!

¹ ? Āgamô-paidhisa. ² Doubtful. ³ Cf. Yt. XIV, 11.

15. Do not turn thy look from me! turn thy mercy towards me, O great Ashi! thou art well-made and of a noble seed¹; thou art sovereign at thy wish; thou art Glory in a bodily form.

16. Thy father is Ahura Mazda, the greatest of all gods, the best of all gods; thy mother is Ârmaiti Spenta; thy brothers are Sraosha², a god of Asha, and Rashnu³, tall and strong, and Mithra⁴, the lord of wide pastures, who has ten thousand spies and a thousand ears; thy sister is the Law of the worshippers of Mazda.

17. Praised of the gods, unoffended by the righteous⁵, the great Ashi Vanguhi stood up on her chariot, thus speaking: 'Who art thou who dost invoke me, whose voice is to my ear the sweetest of all that invoked me most?'

18. And he⁶ said aloud: 'I am Spitama Zarathustra, who, first of mortals, recited the praise of the excellent Asha⁷ and offered up sacrifice unto Ahura Mazda and the Amesha-Spentas; in whose birth and growth the waters and the plants rejoiced; in whose birth and growth the waters and the plants grew; in whose birth and growth all the creatures of the good creation cried out, Hail⁸!

19. 'In whose birth and growth Angra Mainyu rushed away from this wide, round earth, whose ends lie afar, and he, the evil-doing Angra Mainyu, who is all death, said: "All the gods together

¹ Born from the gods; cf. Yt. XXII, 9.

² See Yt. XI.

³ See Yt. XII.

⁴ See Yt. X.

⁵ Or, 'doing no harm to the righteous.'

⁶ Zarathustra.

⁷ The Ahuna Vairya.

⁸ Cf. Yt. XIII, 93.

have not been able to smite me down in spite of myself, and Zarathustra alone can reach me in spite of myself.

20. "He smites me with the Ahuna Vairya, as strong a weapon as a stone big as a house¹; he burns me with Asha-Vahista, as if it were melting brass². He makes it better for me that I should leave this earth, he, Spitama Zarathustra, the only one who can daunt me."

21. And the great Ashi Vanguhi exclaimed: 'Come nearer unto me, thou pure, holy Spitama! lean against my chariot!'

Spitama Zarathustra came nearer unto her, he leant against her chariot.

22. And she caressed him with the left arm and the right, with the right arm and the left, thus speaking: 'Thou art beautiful, O Zarathustra! thou art well-shapen, O Spitama! strong are thy legs and long are thy arms: Glory is given to thy body and long cheerfulness³ to thy soul, as sure as I proclaim it unto thee.'

III.

23⁴. We sacrifice to Ashi Vanguhi, who is shining, high, tall-formed, well worthy of sacrifice, with a loud-sounding chariot, strong, welfare-giving, healing, with fulness of intellect and powerful.

24⁵. To her did Haoshyangha, the Paradhâta, offer up a sacrifice, upon the enclosure of the Hara, the beautiful height, made by Mazda.

25. He begged of her a boon, saying: 'Grant

¹ Cf. Vend. XIX, 4 (13).

² Bliss after death.

³ For §§ 24-26, cf. Yt. IX, 3-6.

⁴ Cf. Yt. III.

⁵ As § 1.

me this, O great Ashi Vanguhi! that I may overcome all the Daêvas of Mâzana; that I may never fear and bow through terror before the Daêvas, but that all the Daêvas may fear and bow in spite of themselves before me, that they may fear and flee down to darkness.'

26. The great Ashi Vanguhi ran and came to his side: Haoshyangha, the Paradhâta, obtained that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

IV.

27. We sacrifice to Ashi Vanguhi, who is shining, high and powerful.

28¹. To her did Yima Khshaêta, the good shepherd, offer up a sacrifice from the height Hukairya.

29. He begged of her a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O great Ashi Vanguhi! that I may bring fatness and flocks down to the world created by Mazda; that I may bring immortality down to the world created by Mazda;

30. 'That I may take away both hunger and thirst, from the world created by Mazda; that I may take away both old age and death, from the world created by Mazda; that I may take away both hot wind and cold wind, from the world created by Mazda, for a thousand years.'

31. The great Ashi Vanguhi ran and came to his side: Yima Khshaêta, the good shepherd, obtained that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

¹ For §§ 28-31, cf. Yt. IX, 8-11.

V.

32. We sacrifice to Ashi Vanguhi, who is shining, high and powerful.

33¹. To her did Thraêtaona, the heir of the valiant Âthwya clan, offer up a sacrifice in the four-cornered Varena.

34. He begged of her a boon, saying : 'Grant me this, O great Ashi Vanguhi ! that I may overcome Azi Dahâka, the three-mouthed, the three-headed, the six-eyed, who has a thousand senses, that most powerful, fiendish Drug, that demon, baleful to the world, the strongest Drug that Angra Mainyu created against the material world, to destroy the world of the good principle ; and that I may deliver his two wives, Savanghavâk and Erenavâk, who are the fairest of body amongst women, and the most wonderful creatures in the world.'

35. The great Ashi Vanguhi ran and came to his side. Thraêtaona, the heir of the valiant Âthwya clan, obtained that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

VI.

36. We sacrifice to Ashi Vanguhi, who is shining, high and powerful.

37². To her did Haoma offer up a sacrifice, Haoma, the enlivening, the healing, the beautiful, the lordly, with golden eyes, upon the highest height of the Haraiti Bareza.

¹ Cf. Yt. V, 34 ; IX, 14 ; XV, 24.

² For §§ 37-39, cf. Yt. IX, 17-19.

38. He begged of her a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O great Ashi Vanguhi! that I may bind the Turanian murderer, Franghrasyan, that I may drag him bound, that I may bring him bound unto king Husravah, that king Husravah may kill him, behind the *Kaêkasta* lake, the deep lake of salt waters, to avenge the murder of his father Syâvarshâna, a man, and of Aghraêratha, a semi-man.'

39. The great Ashi Vanguhi ran and came to his side. Haoma, the enlivening, the healing, the beautiful, the lordly, with golden eyes, obtained that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice

VII.

40. We sacrifice to Ashi Vanguhi, who is shining, high and powerful.

41¹. To her did the gallant Husravah, he who united the Aryan nations into one kingdom, offer up a sacrifice, behind the *Kaêkasta* lake, the deep lake of salt waters.

42. He begged of her a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O great Ashi Vanguhi! that I may kill the Turanian murderer, Franghrasyan, behind the *Kaêkasta* lake, the deep lake of salt waters, to avenge the murder of my father Syâvarshâna, a man, and of Aghraêratha, a semi-man.'

43. The great Ashi Vanguhi ran and came to his side. The gallant Husravah, he who united the Aryan nations into one kingdom, obtained that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ For §§ 41-43, cf. Yt. IX, 21-23.

VIII.

44. We sacrifice to Ashi Vanguhi, who is shining, high and powerful.

45¹. To her did the holy Zarathustra offer up a sacrifice in the Airyana Vaêgah, by the good river Dâitya, with the Haoma and meat, with the baresma, with the wisdom of the tongue, with the holy spells, with the speech, with the deeds, with the libations, and with the rightly-spoken words.

46. He begged of her a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O great Ashi Vanguhi! that I may bring the good and noble Hutaosa to think according to the law, to speak according to the law, to do according to the law, that she may spread my law and make it known, that she may bestow beautiful praises upon my deeds.'

47. The great Ashi Vanguhi ran and came to his side: the holy Zarathustra obtained that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard

IX.

48. We sacrifice to Ashi Vanguhi, who is shining, high and powerful.

49. To her did the tall Kavi Vîstâspa offer up a sacrifice behind the waters of the river Dâitya.

50. He begged of her a boon, saying: 'Grant me this, O great Ashi Vanguhi! that I may put to flight Asta-aurvant, the son of Vîspô-thaurvô-asti, the all-afflicting, of the brazen helmet, of the brazen armour, of the thick neck, behind whom seven

¹ For §§ 45-47, cf. Yt. IX, 25-27.

hundred camels . . . ; that I may put to flight the *Hvyaona* murderer, *Aregat-aspa*; that I may put to flight *Darsinika*, the worshipper of the *Daêvas*;

51. 'And that I may smite *Tâthravant* of the bad law; that I may smite *Spingauruska*, the worshipper of the *Daêvas*; and that I may bring unto the good law the nations of the *Varedhakas* and of the *Hvyaonas*; and that I may smite of the *Hvyaona* nations their fifties and their hundreds, their hundreds and their thousands, their thousands and their tens of thousands, their tens of thousands and their myriads of myriads.'

52. The great *Ashi Vanguhi* ran and came to his side: the tall *Kavi Vistâspa* obtained that boon.

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard

X.

53. We sacrifice to *Ashi Vanguhi*, who is shining, high and powerful.

54. And the great *Ashi Vanguhi* said: 'None of those libations will be accepted by me, which are sent to me either by a man whose seed is dried out¹, or by the courtesan who produces untimely issues², or by young boys, or by girls who have known no man³.

'When the Turanians and the swift-horsed *Naotaras*⁴, clapping their hands, ran after me,

¹ See *Vend.* III, 20 [63], note.

² By procuring abortion.

³ She refuses the offerings of all barren beings.

⁴ Cf. *Yt.* V, 98. The following clauses allude to some myth of *Ashi Vanguhi* connected with the conflict between the Turanians and the *Naotaras* (either *Tusa* and *Vistauru*; cf. p. 71, note 7, or more likely *Vistâspa* himself, to whom the preceding chapter

55. 'I hid myself under the foot of a bull walking under his burden; then young boys, and girls who had known no man, discovered me, even while the Turanians and the swift-horsed Naotaras, clapping their hands, were running after me.

56. 'Even I hid myself under the throat of a ram of hundredfold energy: then again young boys, and girls who had known no man, discovered me, even while the Turanians and the swift-horsed Naotaras, clapping their hands, were running after me.'

57. The first wailing of the great Ashi Vanguhi is her wailing about the courtezan who destroys her fruit: 'Stand thou not near her, sit thou not on her bed!'—'What shall I do? Shall I go back to the heavens? Shall I sink into the earth?'

58. The second wailing of the great Ashi Vanguhi is her wailing about the courtezan who brings forth a child conceived of a stranger and presents it to her husband: 'What shall I do? Shall I go back to the heavens? Shall I sink into the earth?'

59. This is the third wailing of the great Ashi Vanguhi: 'This is the worst deed that men and tyrants do, namely, when they deprive maids, that have been barren for a long time, of marrying and bringing forth children. What shall I do? Shall I go back to the heavens? Shall I sink into the earth?'

60. Ahura Mazda answered: 'O fair and wise Ashi, go not back to the heavens, sink not into the

[§§ 48-52] and the last but one clause of the Yast refer). She tried to flee in the way practised by Ulysses in the Cyclops' cavern; both parties were pursuing the animal that bore her, though they knew not what it bore, till children discovered her.

earth! Stay here and walk inside the fine kingly palace.'

61. I shall worship thee with such a sacrifice, I shall worship and forward thee with such a sacrifice as Vīstāspa offered unto thee, behind the river Dāitya¹. The Zoatar lifted up a loud voice, with baresma before him. With that sort of sacrifice shall I worship thee? With that sort of sacrifice shall I worship and forward thee, O fair and wise Ashi?

For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard

62. Yathā ahû vairyô : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of Ashi Vanguhi ; of the good *Kīsti* ; of the good *Erethē* ; of the good *Rasāstāt* ; of the Glory and Weal, made by Mazda².

Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, give him health of body, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

¹ Cf. §§ 49 seq.

² Cf. *Sīrôzah*, § 25.

XVIII. ÂSTÂD YAST.

Arstât is Truthfulness : she is invoked in company with the Genius of Truth, Rashnu Razista (Sîrôzah, § 18), on the day Rashn. On the day especially dedicated to her, the 26th day of the month, she is invoked in company with Mount Ushi-darena, which accounts for the singular fact that her Yast is wholly devoted to the *Hvarenô*, and thus is hardly distinguishable from the Zamyâd Yast, as Mount Ushi-darena is the actual seat of the *Hvarenô* (Yt. I, 31, text and note ; cf. Yt. XIX, 66). Whence comes this particular connection of Arstât with Mount Ushi-darena is uncertain, unless it alludes to the fact that the possession of the *Hvarenô* can be secured only through truthfulness : as soon as Yima 'began to find delight in words of falsehood and untruth,' the *Hvarenô* flew away from him (Yt. XIX, 34).

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura ;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness

Unto the Glory of the Aryans, made by Mazda,
Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation,
and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyôd : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

1. Ahura Mazda spake unto Spitama Zarathustra, saying : ' I made the Aryan Glory, rich in food, rich in flocks, rich in wealth¹, rich in Glory ; provided with full store of intelligence, with full store of money, to withstand Need, and to withstand enemies.

¹ As it gives food, flocks, and wealth to those who get possessed of it.

2. 'It destroys Angra Mainyu, who is all death; it destroys Aêshma, the fiend of the wounding spear¹; it destroys the yellow Bûshyâsta²; it destroys the contagion³ of Aêkha⁴; it destroys the fiend of death, Apaosha⁵; it destroys the non-Aryan nations.

3. 'And I made the great Ashi Vanguhi; she comes in, amid the family; she comes in, inside the fine royal palace⁶.

4. 'Let Ashi, with fulness of welfare, follow the man who gladdens the faithful with his gifts⁷! she comes in, inside his family; she comes in, inside his fine royal palace.

'With all sorts of flocks, with all victory, with all intelligence, with all Glory, the great Ashi Vanguhi puts one foot⁸ inside his family; she comes in, inside his fine royal palace.

5. 'Horses multiply a thousandfold, flocks multiply a thousandfold; and so does his virtuous offspring, (as) the bright, glorious star Tistrya moves on equally⁹, and so does the strong wind made by Mazda, and so does the Glory of the Aryas.

6. 'And they bring increase on the tops of all mountains, down the depths of all vales; they bring increase to all the growing plants¹⁰, the fair, the golden-hued. And they bring (away)¹¹ the contagion

¹ See Vendidad, Introd. IV, 22.

² Ibid. Introd. IV, 24.

³ Doubtful.

⁴ ? A daêva or a disease.

⁵ See Yt. VIII, 22.

⁶ See Yt. XVII.

⁷ Who gives alms to the poor Mazdayasnians.

⁸ Even one foot (*i*), when she stays not there 'for long friendship' (Yt. XVII, 6).

⁹ So that the rain falls in due time (Yt. VIII, 11).

¹⁰ Cf. Yt. VIII, 29.

¹¹ Cf. § 2.

of Aékha, they bring (away) the fiend of death, Apaosha.

7. 'Hail to the bright and glorious star Tistrya! Hail to the strong wind, made by Mazda! Hail to the Glory of the Aryas!

'Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

'Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

8. 'We worship the Ahuna Vairya.

'We worship Asha-Vahista, the fairest Ameshaspenta.

'We worship the rightly-spoken Words¹, fiend-smiting and healing.

'We worship the healing, well-spoken Words, the fiend-smiting.

'We worship the Mâthra Spenta and the Law of Mazda, and (piety) that delights in Haoma².

'We worship the Glory of the Aryas.

'Yênhê hâtâm: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda

9. 'Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

'I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of the Glory of the Aryas, made by Mazda.

'Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

'[Give] unto that man³ brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.'

¹ Arshukhdha vaêð, the words conformable to the rites.

² Haomakinem; see *Études Iraniennes*, II, 148.

³ Who shall have sacrificed to the Aryan Glory.

XIX. ZAMYÂD YAST.

This Yast, inscribed to the Genius of the Earth, is devoted to a description of the mountains and the kingly Glory (*kavaêṃ Hvarenô*), which are invoked, together with the Earth, in the corresponding formula of the Sîrôzah (§ 28): there is no Yast devoted to the Earth itself.

The mountains are simply enumerated (§§ 1-8). The rest of the Yast is devoted to the praise of the *Hvarenô*, or, more precisely, to that of those who possessed it, whose powers or feats are described. The list begins with Ahura Mazda (§ 10), and closes with Saoshyant (§ 89); that is to say, it begins with the beginning of the world, and closes with its end. It includes the Ameshaspentas (§ 15), Haoshyangha (§ 26), Takhma Urupa (§ 28), Yima (§ 31), Mithra (§ 35), Thraêtaona (§ 36), Keresâspa (§ 38), the kings of the Kaiyanyan dynasty (§§ 66-72), Kavi Husravah (§ 74), Zarathustra (§ 79), Vistâspa (§ 84). The unsuccessful efforts of Franghrasyan to take possession of it are described at length (§§ 56-64).

This Yast would serve as a short history of the Iranian monarchy, an abridged Shâh Nâmah.

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura ;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness

Unto Mount Ushi-darena, made by Mazda, the seat of holy happiness ; unto the kingly Glory, made by Mazda ; unto that Glory that cannot be forcibly seized, made by Mazda ¹,

¹ Sîrôzah I, 28.

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I.

1. The first mountain that rose up out of the earth, O Spitama Zarathustra! was the Haraiti Barez¹. That mountain stretches all along the shores of the land washed by waters² towards the east.

The second mountain was Mount Zeredhô, outside³ Mount Manusha⁴: this mountain too stretches all along the shores of the land washed by waters towards the east.

2. From there grew up Mount Ushi-dhau Ushi-darena⁵, Mount Erezifya⁶, and Mount Fraorepa.

The sixth was Mount Erezura⁷.

The seventh was Mount Bumya⁸.

The eighth was Mount Raoidhita⁹.

¹ The same as the Hara Berezaiti, the later Albôrz; see p. 58, note 3.

² The Caspian sea.

³ Doubtful: pârentarem aredhô; possibly beyond.

⁴ According to the Bundahis, Manusha is another name of Mount Zeredhô (XII, 2). It is the mountain on which Mânûskîhar was born (ibid. 10).

⁵ 'The mountain that gives understanding, that preserves understanding,' the later Mount Ôrdâstâr; see p. 33, note 1.

⁶ See p. 65, note 2.

⁷ Mount Arzûr 'is a summit 'at the gate of hell' (Bundahis XII, 8; cf. Vend. III, 7 (23); XIX, 140).

⁸ The Arzûr Bûm of Bundahis XII, 2, which 'is in the direction of Arûm' (Asia Minor, Bundahis XII, 16).

⁹ The Rôyisn-ômand mountain of Bundahis XII, 27; its name

The ninth was Mount *Mazisisvau*.

The tenth was Mount *Antare-danghu*.

The eleventh was Mount *Erezisha*.

The twelfth was Mount *Vâiti-gaêsa*¹.

3. And Mount *Âdarana*, Mount *Bayana*, Mount *Iskata Upairi-saêna*², with the . . .³ snows; the two *Hamankuna* mountains, the eight *Vasna* mountains, the eight powerful *Frâvanku*, the four *Vidhvana* summits;

4. Mount *Aêzakha*, Mount *Maênakha*, Mount *Vâkhedrakaê*, Mount *Asaya*, Mount *Tudhaskaê*, Mount *Isavaê*, Mount *Draoshisvau*, Mount *Sâirivau*, Mount *Nanghusmau*, Mount *Kakahyu*, Mount *Antare-Kangha*⁴;

5. Mount *Siêidava*⁵, Mount *Ahuna*, Mount *Raêmana*, Mount *Asha-stembana*, Mount *Urunyô-vâidhkaê*, Mount *Âsnavant*⁶, Mount *Ushama*, Mount *Usta-hvarenah*, Mount *Syâmaka*⁷, Mount *Vafrayau*, Mount *Vourusha*;

means 'the mountain on which vegetation has grown' (ibid. tr. West).

¹ The *Bâdghês* mountain near Herât, بادغيس.

² Or 'Mount *Iskata* ("rugged"), belonging to the *Upairi-saêna* ridge.' The *Upairi-saêna* ridge or *Aparsên* ridge is 'the mountain of Persia, and its beginning is in *Seistân* and its end in *Susiana*' (Bund. XII, 9).

³ ? *Kâsô-tafedhra*; possibly the name of a mountain: Mount *Kâsô-tafedhra Vafra*.

⁴ See p. 67, note 4.

⁵ 'Siêidâv, a mountain among those which are in *Kangdez*' (Bund. XII, 2, tr. West).

⁶ See p. 7, note 5.

⁷ The Mount *Siyâk-ômand* ('the black mountain') and Mount *Vafar-ômand* ('the snowy mountain') of *Bundahis XII, 22*, which are said to have grown out of the *Aparsên* ridge and to extend towards China.

6. Amongst which stand Mount *Gatara*, Mount *Adhutavau*, Mount *Spitavarena*, Mount *Spentô-dâta*¹, Mount *Kadrva-aspa*², Mount *Kaoirisa*³, Mount *Taêra*⁴, Mount *Barô-srayana*, Mount *Barana*, Mount *Frâpayau*, Mount *Udrya*, and Mount *Raêvan*⁵, and all those heights to which men have given the name of mount,

7. To the number of two thousand mountains, and two hundred and forty and four⁶, O Spitama Zarathustra!

8. For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice worth being heard, namely, unto the awful kingly Glory. Unto the awful kingly Glory we offer up the libations, the Haoma and meat, the baresma, the wisdom of the tongue, the holy spells, the speech, the deeds, the libations, and the rightly-spoken words⁷.

Yênhê hâtãm: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda⁷

II.

9. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda; most conquering, highly working, that possesses health, wisdom, and happiness, and is more powerful to destroy than all other creatures;

¹ The Spendyâd mountain, near Mount Rêvand (Bundahis XII, 23).

² The Kôndrâsp mountain, by the town of Tûs (in Khorasan, Bund. XII, 24).

³ The Kôîrâs mountain in Îrân-Vêg (Bund. XII, 25).

⁴ Cf. Yt. XV, 7, and p. 58, note 2.

⁵ See p. 8, notes 1 and 2.

⁶ 'The other mountains have grown out of Albûrs, in number 2244 mountains' (Bund. XII, 2).

⁷ See notes to Yt. III, 17 (p. 47).

10. That belongs to Ahura Mazda, as (through it) Ahura Mazda made the creatures, many and good, many and fair, many and wonderful, many and prosperous, many and bright ;

11¹. So that they may restore the world, which will (thenceforth) never grow old and never die, never decaying and never rotting, ever living and ever increasing, and master of its wish, when the dead will rise, when life and immortality will come, and the world will be restored at its wish ;

12. When the creation will grow deathless,—the prosperous creation of the Good Spirit,—and the Drug² shall perish, though she may rush on every side to kill the holy beings ; she and her hundred-fold brood shall perish, as it is the will of the Lord².

13. For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice . . .

III.

14. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda³

15⁴. That belongs to the Amesha-Spentas, the bright ones, whose looks perform their wish, tall, quickly coming to do, strong, lordly, who are undecaying and holy ;

16. Who are all seven of one thought, who are all seven of one speech, who are all seven of one deed ; whose thought is the same, whose speech is the same, whose deed is the same, whose father and commander is the same, namely, the Maker, Ahura Mazda.

¹ §§ 11-12=§§ 19-20, 23-24, 89-90.

² Doubtful.

³ As above, § 9.

⁴ §§ 15-17=Yt. XIII, 82-84.

17. Who see one another's soul thinking of good thoughts, thinking of good words, thinking of good deeds, thinking of Garô-nmâna, and whose ways are shining as they go down to the libations ;

18. Who are the makers and governors, the shapers and overseers, the keepers and preservers of these creations of Ahura Mazda.

19¹. It is they who shall restore the world, which will (thenceforth) never grow old and never die, never decaying and never rotting, ever living and ever increasing, and master of its wish, when the dead will rise, when life and immortality will come, and the world will be restored at its wish ;

20. When the creation will grow deathless,—the prosperous creation of the Good Spirit,—and the Drug shall perish, though she may rush on every side to kill the holy beings ; she and her hundred-fold brood shall perish, as it is the will of the Lord.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

IV.

21. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda

22. That belongs to the gods in the heavens and to those in the material world, and to the blessed ones, born or not yet born, who are to perform the restoration of the world².

23³. It is they who shall restore the world, which will (thenceforth) never grow old and never die, never decaying and never rotting, ever living and

¹ §§ 19-20 = §§ 11-12.

² The *Saoshyants* ; see p. 165, note 1.

³ §§ 23-24 = §§ 19-20.

ever increasing, and master of its wish, when the dead will rise, when life and immortality will come, and the world will be restored at its wish ;

24. When the creation will grow deathless,—the prosperous creation of the Good Spirit,—and the *Drug* shall perish, though she may rush on every side to kill the holy beings ; she and her hundred-fold brood shall perish, as it is the will of the Lord.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

V.

25. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda

26. That clave unto Haoshyangha, the *Paradhâta*, for a long time¹, when he ruled over the seven *Karshvares* of the earth, over the *Daêvas* and men, over the *Yâtus* and the *Pairikas*, over the oppressors, the blind, and the deaf ; he who smote two-thirds of the *Daêvas* of *Mâzana* and of the *Varenya fiends*².

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

VI.

27. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda

28. That clave unto *Takhma Urupa*, the well-armed, while he ruled over the seven *Karshvares* of the earth, over the *Daêvas* and men, the *Yâtus* and *Pairikas*, the oppressors, the blind, and the deaf ;

29. When he conquered all *Daêvas* and men, all the *Yâtus* and *Pairikas*, and rode *Angra Mainyu*,

¹ For forty years, according to the *Bundahis* (XXXIV, 4) ; for thirty years, according to *Firdausi*.

² See *Yt. V*, 22.

turned into the shape of a horse, all around the earth from one end to the other, for thirty years¹.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

VII.

30. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda

31. That clave unto the bright Yima, the good shepherd, for a long time², while he ruled over the seven Karshvares of the earth, over the Daêvas and men, the Yâtus and Pairikas, the oppressors, the blind, and the deaf;

32. He who took from the Daêvas both riches and welfare, both fatness and flocks, both weal and Glory³;

In whose reign both aliments⁴ were never failing for feeding creatures, flocks and men were undying, waters and plants were undrying;

33. In whose reign there was neither cold wind nor hot wind, neither old age nor death, nor envy made by the Daêvas⁵, in the times before his lie, before he began to have delight in words of falsehood and untruth.

34. But when he began to find delight in words of falsehood and untruth⁶, the Glory was seen to flee away from him in the shape of a bird. When his Glory had disappeared, then the great⁷ Yima

¹ Cf. Yt. XV, 12, and notes.

² For six hundred and sixteen years and six months (Bundahis XXXIV, 4).

³ See Yt. V, 26, text and note.

⁴ Food and drink.

⁵ Cf. Yt. XV, 16.

⁶ He pretended to be a god (Firdausi).

⁷ Doubtful: fraêsta.

Khshaêta, the good shepherd, trembled and was in sorrow before his foes¹; he was confounded, and laid him down on the ground.

35. The first time² when the Glory departed from the bright Yima, the Glory went from Yima, the son of Vîvanghant, in the shape of a Vâraghna bird³.

Then Mithra seized that Glory, Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, whose ear is quick to hear, who has a thousand senses. We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of all countries, whom Ahura Mazda has created the most glorious of all the gods in the heavens.

36. The second time when the Glory departed from the bright Yima, the Glory went from Yima, the son of Vîvanghant, in the shape of a Vâraghna bird.

Then Thraêtaona seized that Glory, he, the heir of the valiant Âthwya clan, who was the most victorious of all victorious men next to Zarathustra;

37. Who smote Azi Dahâka, the three-mouthed, the three-headed, the six-eyed, who had a thousand senses, that most powerful, fiendish Drug, that demon baleful to the world, the strongest Drug that Angra Mainyu created against the material world, to destroy the world of the good principle⁴.

¹ Azi Dahâka and his followers.

² The Glory is described as departing three times, because it is threefold, according as it belongs to the king considered as a priest, a warrior, or a husbandman. In that threefold character it is identical with Âdar Frobâ, Âdar Gushasp, and Âdar Bûrzîn Mihr (p. 7, notes).

³ A raven, one of the incarnations of the Genius of Victory (Yt. XIV, 18-21; cf. *ibid.* § 35).

⁴ Cf. Yt. V, 34.

38. The third time when the Glory departed from the bright Yima, that Glory went from Yima, the son of Vîvanghant, in the shape of a Vâraghna bird.

Then the manly-hearted Keresâspa¹ seized that Glory; he who was the sturdiest of the men of strength, next to Zarathustra, for his manly courage.

39. For Manly Courage clave unto him. We worship Manly Courage, firm of foot, unsleeping, quick to rise, and fully awake, that clave unto Keresâspa;

40. Who killed the snake Srvara, the horse-devouring, men-devouring, yellow, poisonous snake, over which yellow poison flowed a thumb's breadth thick. Upon him Keresâspa was cooking his food in a brass vessel: at the time of noon, the fiend felt the heat, and stood upon his feet: he rushed from under the brass vessel and upset the boiling water: the manly-hearted Keresâspa fell back affrighted²;

41. Who killed the golden-heeled Gandarewa, that was rushing with open jaws, eager to destroy the living world of the good principle³;

Who killed the brood of Pathana, all the nine⁴;

¹ See V, 37 (pp. 62-63, and notes); XIII, 136; XV, 27.

² Cf. Yasna IX, 11 (34-39). This tale belongs to the widespread cyclus of the island-whale (a whale whose back is mistaken by sailors for an island; they land upon it, cook their food there, and the monster, awaked by the heat, flies off and carries them away: see Arabian Nights, Seventy-first Night; Babâ Bathrâ, 5).

³ See Yt. V, 38.

⁴ Known in the Minokhired (XXVII, 50) as 'the wolf Kapôd' (perhaps 'the blue wolf,' as Mr. West suggests), 'which they also call Pzhan.' Those nine sons of Pathana were nine highwaymen (the very word Pathana seems to have that meaning): their defeat is told by Keresâspa in a Pahlavi Rivâyat as follows: 'I have slain the highwaymen who were so big in body that, when they were

and the brood of Nivika, and the brood of Dâstaya;
yana;

Who killed the golden-crowned Hitâspa¹, and Vareshava, the son of Dâna², and Pitaona, attended by many Pairikas³;

42. Who killed Arezô-shamana, him of the manly courage, who was strong, well-beloved⁴, hail, energetically rushing, fully awake, never falling back....⁵;

43. Who killed Snâvidhaka, him who killed with his nails, the stone-handed : thus did he exclaim to all around : ' I am an infant still, I am not yet of age : if I ever grow of age, I shall make the earth a wheel, I shall make the heavens a chariot ;

44. ' I shall bring down the Good Spirit from the shining Garô-nmâna ; I shall make the Evil Spirit rush up from the dreary Hell. They will carry my

walking, people considered in this way, that " below them are the stars and moon, and below them moves the sun at dawn, and the water of the sea reaches up to their knees." And I reached up to their legs, and they were smitten on the legs by me ; they fell, and the hills on the earth were shattered by them ' (West, Pahlavi Texts, II, 376). Keresâspa's Fravashi, accordingly, is invoked against thieves (Yt. XIII, 136). Perhaps the assimilation of the wolf Kapôd with Pzhan is merely a guess of the author of the Minokhired.

¹ The murderer of Keresâspa's brother, Urvâkhshaya (Yt. XV, 28).

² Doubtful: dânayana. Vâresha is the Pahlavi name of a bird of prey (Bund. XIV, 30), which might induce us to identify Vareshava with the gigantic bird Kamak, ' which overshadowed the earth and kept off the rain till the rivers dried up ' (West, l. l. 378), and whose destruction was one of the feats of Keresâspa.

³ Like the Pairika Knâthaiti, who clave to Keresâspa (Vend. I, 10 [36]).

⁴ Doubtful: frâzustem.

⁵ The rest of the sentence is obscure, and the text seems to be corrupt.

chariot, both the Good Spirit and the Evil One, unless the manly-hearted Keresâspa kill me.'

The manly-hearted Keresâspa killed him, his life went away, his spirit vanished ¹.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

VIII.

45. We sacrifice unto the awful Glory, that cannot be forcibly seized², made by Mazda

46. For which the Good Spirit and the Evil One did struggle with one another³: for that Glory that cannot be forcibly seized² they flung each of them their darts most swift.

The Good Spirit flung a dart, and so did Vohu-Manô, and Asha-Vahista and Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda.

The Evil Spirit flung a dart, and so did Akem-Manô⁴, and Aêshma of the wounding spear, and Azi Dahâka and Spityura, he who sawed Yima in twain⁵.

¹ Snâvidhaka reminds one vividly of the Titanic Otus and Ephialtes (Odyssea XI, 308):

'Such were they youths! Had they to manhood grown,
Almighty Jove had trembled on his throne:
But ere the harvest of the beard began
To bristle on the chin, and promise man,
His shafts Apollo aim'd.' (Pope.)

² The sacerdotal Glory; see p. 11, note 6, cf. § 53.

³ When it had departed from Yima.

⁴ Bad Thought, the demoniac counterpart of Vohu-Manô (Vend. Introd. IV, 34).

⁵ Spityura was a brother of Yima's (Bund. XXXI, 3: 'Spîtûr was he who, with Dahâk, cut up Yim,' *ibid.* 5, tr. West). Nothing more is known of him, though he appears to have played a great part in the original Yima legend, and to have stood to his brother in the same relation as Barmâyûn and Katâyûn to Ferîdûn, or

47. Then forward came Âtar¹, the son of Ahura Mazda, thinking thus in his heart: 'I want to seize that Glory that cannot be forcibly seized.'

But Azi Dahâka, the three-mouthed, he of the evil law, rushed on his back, thinking of extinguishing it:

48. 'Here give it up to me², O Âtar, son of Ahura Mazda: if thou seizest that Glory that cannot be forcibly seized, I shall rush upon thee, so that thou mayest never more blaze on the earth made by Ahura and protect the world of the good principle.'

And Âtar took back his hands, as the instinct of life prevailed, so much had Azi affrighted him.

49. Then Azi, the three-mouthed, he of the evil law, rushed forward, thinking thus in his heart: 'I want to seize that Glory that cannot be forcibly seized.'

But Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda, advanced behind him, speaking in these words:

50. 'There give it up to me², thou three-mouthed Azi Dahâka. If thou seizest that Glory that cannot be forcibly seized, then I will enter thy hinder part, I will blaze up in thy jaws, so that thou mayest never more rush upon the earth made by Mazda and destroy the world of the good principle.'

Then Azi took back his hands, as the instinct of life prevailed, so much had Âtar affrighted him.

51. That Glory swells up and goes to the sea

Shagâd to Rustam. Firdausi does not mention him, and makes Dahâk himself saw Gemshîd.

¹ Âdar Frobâ (the Glory of the Priest) is meant here: 'when they sawed Yim, Âdar Frobâ saved his Glory from the hand of Dahâk' (Bund. XVII, 5; Études Iraniennes, II, 70, 84).

² Doubtful.

Vouru-Kasha. The swift-horsed Son of the Waters¹ seizes it at once: this is the wish of the Son of the Waters, the swift-horsed: 'I want to seize that Glory that cannot be forcibly seized, down to the bottom of the sea Vouru-Kasha, in the bottom of the deep rivers.'

52. We sacrifice unto the Son of the Waters, the swift-horsed, the tall and shining lord, the lord of females; the male god, who helps one at his appeal; who made man, who shaped man², a god who lives beneath waters, and whose ear is the quickest to hear when he is worshipped.

53. 'And whosoever of you, O men,'—thus said Ahura Mazda,—'O holy Zarathustra! shall seize that Glory that cannot be forcibly seized, he has the gifts³ of an Âthraivan⁴; whosoever shall long for the illumination of knowledge, he has the gifts of an Âthraivan; whosoever shall long for fulness of knowledge, he has the gifts of an Âthraivan;

54. 'And Riches will cleave unto him, giving him full welfare, holding a shield before him, powerful, rich of cattle and garments; and Victory will cleave unto him, day after day; and likewise Strength, that smites more than a year. Attended by that Victory, he will conquer the havocking hordes; attended by that Victory, he will conquer all those who hate him.'

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

¹ Apãm Napâ/; see p. 6, note 1.

² An allusion to old myths on the igneous origin of life (Ormazd et Ahriman, § 78).

³ Doubtful.

⁴ As that Glory is the one that belongs to the Âthraivan.

IX.

55. We sacrifice unto the awful Glory, that cannot be forcibly seized, made by Mazda

56. Which the Turanian ruffian Frangrasyan tried to seize in the sea Vouru-Kasha. He stripped himself naked, wishing to seize that Glory that belongs to the Aryan nations, born and unborn, and to the holy Zarathustra¹. But the Glory escaped, the Glory fled away, the Glory changed its seat, and an arm of the sea Vouru-Kasha was produced, namely, that lake that is called Lake Husravah².

57³. Then the most crafty Turanian Frangrasyan rushed out of the sea Vouru-Kasha, O Spitama Zarathustra! thinking evil thoughts: '. . . .⁴ I have not been able to conquer the Glory that belongs to the Aryan nations, born and unborn, and to the holy Zarathustra.

58. 'Then I will defile all corn and liquors⁵, as to greatness, goodness, and fairness.'

— 'Ahura Mazda will come against thee, ever eager to create new creatures⁶.'

Then the most crafty Turanian Frangrasyan rushed down into the sea Vouru-Kasha, O Spitama Zarathustra!

¹ See *Études Iraniennes*, II, 227; cf. § 82.

² 'Lake Husravah is within fifty leagues (parasang) of Lake Kêkêst' (Lake Urumiah, Bund. XXII, 8, tr. West).

³ Cf. §§ 60, 63.

⁴ Itha itha yathana ahmâi.

⁵ Tarshuša khshudraša, translated dhânyâni madhûniša (Sansk. tr. to *Âfrîgân Gâhambâr*, § 12). Afrâsyâb was charged with having laid Iran waste by filling up or conducting away rivers (*Hamzah Ispahensis*, p. 34; cf. Bund. XXI, 6).

⁶ This looks like an answer to Afrâsyâb's threats.

59. A second time he stripped himself naked, wishing to seize that Glory that belongs to the Aryan nations, born and unborn, and to the holy Zarathustra. But the Glory escaped, the Glory fled away, the Glory changed its seat, and an arm of the sea Vouru-Kasha was produced, namely, that lake that is called Lake Vanghazdau¹.

60². Then the most crafty Turanian Frangrasyan rushed out of the sea Vouru-Kasha, O Spitama Zarathustra! thinking evil thoughts: '. . .³ I have not been able to conquer the Glory that belongs to the Aryan nations, born and unborn, and to the holy Zarathustra.

61. 'Then I will defile all corn and liquors, as to greatness, goodness, and fairness.'

—'Ahura Mazda will come against thee, ever eager to create new creatures.'

Then the most crafty Turanian Frangrasyan rushed down into the sea Vouru-Kasha.

62. A third time he stripped himself naked, wishing to seize the Glory that belongs to the Aryan nations, born and unborn, and to the holy Zarathustra. But the Glory escaped, the Glory fled away, the Glory changed its seat, and an arm was produced in the sea Vouru-Kasha, namely, the water that is called Awz-dânva.

63⁴. Then the most crafty Turanian Frangrasyan rushed out of the sea Vouru-Kasha, O Spitama Zarathustra! thinking evil thoughts: '. . .⁵ I have

¹ The situation of that lake is not stated. ² Cf. §§ 57, 63.

³ Itha itha yathana ahmâi avatha itha yathana ahmâi.

⁴ Cf. §§ 57, 60.

⁵ Itha itha yathana ahmâi avatha itha yathana ahmâi âvoya itha yathana ahmâi.

not been able to conquer the Glory that belongs to the Aryan nations, born and unborn, and to the holy Zarathustra !'

64. He was not able to seize the Glory that belongs to the Aryan nations, born and unborn, and to the holy Zarathustra.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

X.

65. We sacrifice unto the awful Glory that cannot be forcibly seized, made by Mazda

66. That cleaves unto him¹ who grows up there, where lies Lake Kāsava², along with the Haêtumant³ river; there where stands Mount Ushidhau⁴, surrounded by waters, that run from the mountain.

67. It⁵ runs unto him, it flows and swells unto him, bringing good pastures and fine horses, bringing plenty, full of glory; with beauty and weal; powerful and friendly, rich of pastures, prolific and golden. It runs unto him, it flows and swells unto him, bright and glorious, making the white⁶ grow, smiting away all plagues.

68. And there comes with him a horse's strength, there comes with him a camel's strength, there

¹ That is to say, to any one who The Kavis or Kings of Iran are meant: Lake Kāsava was supposed to be 'the home of the Kayân race' (Bund. XXI, 7). The Kavis are enumerated in the following clauses (§§ 71 seq.).

² The present Zarah or Hamûn sea in Seistan.

³ The Helمند ('Ερύμανδρος; cf. Vend. I, 14).

⁴ The seat of the Hvarenô; see p. 33, note 1, p. 287, note 5, and Introduction to Yt. XVIII.

⁵ The water of the rivers in which the Glory lies, and in the midst of which the Kavi has been nourished.

⁶ ? Varemîs.

comes with him a man's strength, there comes with him the kingly Glory: and there is in him, O holy Zarathustra! so much of kingly Glory as might extinguish at once all the non-Aryan nations.

69. And then (through it) living creatures may keep away¹ hunger and death, living creatures (may keep away) cold and heat¹. Such is the kingly Glory, the keeper of the Aryan nations and of the five kinds of animals², made to help the faithful and the Law of the worshippers of Mazda.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

XI.

70. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda

71. That clave unto Kavi Kavâta, and unto Kavi Aipivôhu, and unto Kavi Usadha, and unto Kavi Arshan, and unto Kavi Pisina, and unto Kavi Byârshan, and unto Kavi Syâvarshan³;

72. So that they were all of them brave, all of them strong, all of them healthful, all of them wise, all of them happy in their wishes, all of them powerful kings.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

XII.

73. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda

74⁴. That clave unto Kavi Husravah for the well-shapen Strength, for the Victory made by Ahura, for the crushing Ascendant; for the righteousness of the law, for the innocence of the law, for the

¹ Doubtful. ² See p. 182, note 2. ³ See Yt. XIII, § 132.

⁴ §§ 74-76=Yt. XIII, 133-135.

unconquerable power of the law; for the extermination of the enemies at one stroke;

75. And for the vigour of health, for the Glory made by Mazda, for the health of the body, and for a good, virtuous offspring, wise, chief in assemblies, bright, and clear-eyed, that frees [their father] from the pangs [of hell], of good intellect; and for that part in the blessed world that falls to wisdom and to those who do not follow impiety;

76. And for a dominion full of splendour, for a long, long life, and for all boons and remedies;

77. So that king Husravah [had the lead] all along the long race, and he could not pass through the forest, he¹, the murderer, who was fiercely striving against him on horseback; the lord Kavi Husravah prevailed over all; he put in bonds Frangrasyan and Keresavazda², to avenge the murder of his father Syâvarshâna, a man, and of Aghraêratha, a semi-man³.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

XIII.

78. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda

79. That clave unto the holy Zarathustra, so that he thought according to the Law, spake according

¹ Aurvasâra; see Yt. XV, 32; cf. Yt. V, 50 (where the words all along the long race have been omitted in the translation). The words have the lead here have been supplied from Yt. V, 50: the text here has two words, tãm keresem, of which both the reading and the meaning are doubtful.

² Keresavazda, the Karsîvaz of Firdausi, the brother of Afrâsyâb and the murderer of Syâvarshâna: he was put to death by Husravah in company with his brother (Études Iraniennes, II, 227).

³ See p. 114, note 7.

to the Law, and did according to the Law; so that he was the holiest in holiness in all the living world, the best-ruling in exercising rule, the brightest in brightness, the most glorious in glory, the most victorious in victory.

80. At his sight the Daêvas rushed away; at his sight the (demoniac) malices were extinguished; at his sight the *Gainis*¹ drew back their ways from the mortals and, lamenting² and wailing, laid violent hands on the Daêvas.

81. And that one prayer, the Ahuna Vairya, which the holy Zarathustra sang and repeated four times, with a song that waxed louder and louder, drove back all the Daêvas beneath the earth, and took off from them sacrifice and prayer³.

82. It was it, the Glory of Zarathustra, that the Turanian ruffian Frangrasyan tried to seize to rule over all the Karshvares; round about the seven Karshvares did that ruffian Frangrasyan rush, trying to seize the Glory of Zarathustra⁴. But that Glory escaped to hidden inlets of the sea⁵; and there those two⁶ made my will⁷ roll on⁸; they entered my will, as it was my wish, Ahura Mazda's, and as it was the wish of the Law of Mazda.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

¹ See Vend. XX, 10.

² Doubtful. Perhaps: and lamenting and wailing the Daêvas left off injuring.

³ Cf. Yt. XIII, 90.

⁴ See above, §§ 56-64.

⁵ Cf. §§ 56, 59, 62.

⁶ Zarathustra and Vîstâspa (?); cf. §§ 84-87.

⁷ Meaning my law.

⁸ Cf. Yt. XIII, 89, note 5.

XIV.

83. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda

84. That clave unto king Vîstâspa, so that he thought according to the Law, spake according to the Law, and did according to the Law; so that he professed that Law, destroying his foes and causing the Daêvas to retire.

85¹. Who, driving the Drug before him², sought wide room for the holy religion; who, driving the Drug before him, made wide room for the holy religion; who made himself the arm and support of this law of Ahura, of this law of Zarathustra;

86. Who took her, standing bound, from the hands of the Hunus, and established her to sit in the middle [of the world], high ruling, never falling back, holy, nourished with plenty of cattle and pastures, blessed with plenty of cattle and pastures.

87. The valiant king Vîstâspa conquered all enemies, Tâthravant of the evil law, Peshana, the worshipper of the Daêvas, and the fiendish wicked Aregat-aspa and the other wicked *Hvyaonas*³.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

XV.

88. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda

89⁴. That will cleave unto the victorious Saoshyant and his helpers⁵, when he shall restore the

¹ §§ 85-86 = Yt. XIII, 99-100.

² Or 'with his spear pushed forwards;' see p. 205, note 1.

³ Cf. Yt. V, 109.

⁴ §§ 89-90 = §§ 11-12.

⁵ See p. 117, note 6.

world, which will (thenceforth) never grow old and never die, never decaying and never rotting, ever living and ever increasing, and master of its wish, when the dead will rise, when life and immortality will come, and the world will be restored at its wish ;

90. When the creation will grow deathless,—the prosperous creation of the Good Spirit,—and the Drug shall perish, though she may rush on every side to kill the holy beings ; she and her hundred-fold brood shall perish, as it is the will of the Lord.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

XVI.

91. We sacrifice unto the awful kingly Glory, made by Mazda

92. When *Astvat-ereta*¹ shall rise up from Lake *Kâsava*², a friend of Ahura Mazda, a son of *Vispataurvairi*³, knowing the victorious knowledge.

It was that Glory that *Thraêtaona* bore with him when *Azi Dahâka* was killed⁴ ;

93. That *Frangrasyan*, the Turanian, bore when *Drvau*⁵ was killed, when the Bull was killed⁶ ;

That king *Husravah* bore when *Frangrasyan*, the Turanian, was killed⁷ ;

¹ *Saoshyant*; cf. Yt. XIII, 129.

² Cf. § 66 and Vend. XIX, 5 (18).

³ See Yt. XIII, 142.

⁴ Cf. § 36.

⁵ Or 'the demon.'

⁶ This line is in contradiction with what we know of the *Frangrasyan* legend, unless the text is corrupt and the name of *Frangrasyan* has been introduced here by mistake (for *Keresâspa*?). Yet it may allude to brighter sides, unknown to us, of the Turanian hero : the Bull (*gaur*) may be his brother *Aghraêratha*, the Bull-man (*Gôpatishâh*) ; see p. 114, note 7.

⁷ See § 77.

That king Vîstâspa bore, when he victoriously maintained Holiness against the host of the fiends and took off the Drug from the world of the good principle ¹.

94. He ², with the eye of intelligence ³, shall look down upon all the creatures of the Paêsis ⁴, her of the evil seed: he shall look upon the whole living world with the eye of plenty, and his look shall deliver to immortality the whole of the living creatures.

95. And there shall his friends ⁵ come forward, the friends of Astvat-ereta, who are fiend-smiting, well-thinking, well-speaking, well-doing, following the good law, and whose tongues have never uttered a word of falsehood.

Before them shall Aêshma of the wounding spear, who has no Glory, bow and flee; he shall smite the most wicked Drug, her of the evil seed, born of darkness.

96. Akem-Manô ⁶ smites, but Vohu-Manô shall smite him; the Word of falsehood smites, but the Word of truth shall smite it. Haurvatât and Ameretât ⁷ shall smite both hunger and thirst: Haurvatât and Ameretât shall smite the evil hunger and the evil thirst. The evil-doing Angra Mainyu bows and flees, becoming powerless.

For its brightness and glory, I will offer it a sacrifice

97. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

¹ Cf. § 84.

² Saoshyant.

³ Cf. Yt. I, 28.

⁴ A name of the Drug.

⁵ See p. 220, note 1.

⁶ See p. 297, note 4.

⁷ The Genii of the waters and of the plants (cf. Vend. Introd. IV, 34).

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of Mount Ushi-darena, made by Mazda, the seat of holy happiness; of the kingly Glory, made by Mazda; of the Glory that cannot be forcibly seized, made by Mazda¹.

Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man² brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

¹ Cf. § o.

² Who sacrifices to the kingly Glory.

XX. VANANT YAST.

This Yast ought to follow immediately after the Tîr Yast, as it is derived from the same Sîrôzah formula; the one in which Tistrya is invoked along with Vanant and Haptôiringa (Sîrôzah, § 13). It is a mere supplement to that Yast. On Vanant, see p. 97, note 6.

o. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra, one who hates the Daêvas and obeys the laws of Ahura;

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification unto [Hâvani], the holy and master of holiness

Unto the star Vanant, made by Mazda,

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyo: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

1. We sacrifice unto the star Vanant, made by Mazda, the holy and master of holiness.

I will sacrifice unto Vanant, strong, invoked by his own name¹, healing, in order to withstand the accursed and most foul Khrafstras² of the most abominable Angra Mainyu.

2. Yathâ ahû vairyo: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of the star Vanant, made by Mazda.

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man³ brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

¹ See p. 13, note 2.

² The reptiles and other Ahrimanian creatures (Vendidad, Introd. V, 11) which are destroyed by the rain (Bund. VII, 7).

³ Who sacrifices to Vanant.

XXI AND XXII. YAST FRAGMENTS.

These two Yasts or Yast fragments are known among the Parsis as the Hâdhôkht Nask, though their context does not correspond to any part of the description of that Nask as given in the Dînkart (West, Pahlavi Texts, I, 224, note 8). A Pahlavi translation of these Yasts has been edited by Haug and West (The Book of Ardâ Vîrâf, p. 269 seq.).

XXI. YAST FRAGMENT.

Yast XXI is a eulogy of the Ashem Vohû prayer, the value of which rises higher and higher, according as the circumstances under which it is being recited are of greater importance.

1. Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda: 'O Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

'What is the only word in which is contained the glorification of all good things, of all the things that are the offspring of the good principle?'

2. Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is the praise of Holiness¹, O Spitama Zarathustra!

3. 'He who recites the praise of Holiness¹, in the fulness of faith and with a devoted heart, praises me, Ahura Mazda; he praises the waters, he praises the earth, he praises the cattle, he praises the plants, he praises all good things made by Mazda, all the things that are the offspring of the good principle.

4. 'For the reciting of that word of truth, O Zarathustra! the pronouncing of that formula, the Ahuna Vairya, increases strength and victory in one's soul and piety.

¹ Asha: the Ashem Vohû.

5. 'For that only recital of the praise of Holiness is worth a hundred khshnaothras of the beings of Holiness¹, when delivered while going to sleep, a thousand when delivered after eating, ten thousand when delivered during cohabitation, or any number when delivered in departing this life.'

6. 'What is the one recital of the praise of Holiness that is worth ten others in greatness, goodness, and fairness?'

7. Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is that one, O holy Zarathustra! that a man delivers when eating the gifts of Haurvatât and Ameretât², at the same time professing good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, and rejecting evil thoughts, evil words, and evil deeds.'

8. 'What is the one recital of the praise of Holiness that is worth a hundred others in greatness, goodness, and fairness?'

9. Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is that one, O holy Zarathustra! that a man delivers while drinking of the Haoma strained for the sacrifice, at the same time professing good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, and rejecting evil thoughts, evil words, and evil deeds.'

10. 'What is the one recital of the praise of Holiness that is worth a thousand others in greatness, goodness, and fairness?'

11. Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is that one, O holy Zarathustra! that a man delivers when starting

¹ A hundred times the formula: 'Be propitiation (khshnaothra) unto N. . . , the holy and master of holiness' (cf. p. 1, note 2).

² Eating or drinking (see Vendîdâd, Introd. IV, 33).

up from his bed or going to sleep again, at the same time professing good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, and rejecting evil thoughts, evil words, and evil deeds.'

12. 'What is the one recital of the praise of Holiness that is worth ten thousand others in greatness, goodness, and fairness?'

13. Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is that one, O holy Zarathustra! that a man delivers when waking up and rising from sleep, at the same time professing good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, and rejecting evil thoughts, evil words, and evil deeds.'

14. 'What is the one recital of the praise of Holiness that is worth this Karshvare of ours, *Hvaniratha*¹, with its cattle and its chariots, without its men, in greatness, goodness, and fairness?'

15. Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is that one, O holy Zarathustra! that a man delivers in the last moments of his life, at the same time professing good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, and rejecting evil thoughts, evil words, and evil deeds.'

16. 'What is the one recital of the praise of Holiness that is worth all that is between the earth and the heavens, and this earth, and that luminous space, and all the good things made by Mazda, that are the offspring of the good principle in greatness, goodness, and fairness?'

17. Ahura Mazda answered: 'It is that one, O holy Zarathustra! that a man delivers to renounce evil thoughts, evil words, and evil deeds².'

¹ See p. 123, note 5.

² In a conversion, or in the recital of the penitential prayers.

YAST XXII.

This Yast is a description of the fate that attends the soul of the righteous (§§ 1-18) and the soul of the wicked (§§ 19-37) after death. They spend the first three nights (the *sadis* or *sidōs*; cf. *Commentaire du Vendīdād*, XIII, 55) amongst the highest enjoyments or pains; they are then met by their own conscience in the shape of a beautiful heavenly maiden (or a fiendish old woman¹), and are brought in four steps up to heaven or down to hell, through the three paradises of Good-Thought, Good-Word, and Good-Deed, or the three hells of Evil-Thought, Evil-Word, and Evil-Deed: there they are praised and glorified by Ahura, or rebuked and insulted by Angra Mainyu, and fed with ambrosia or poison.

Similar developments are to be found in Yast XXIV, 53-65; Ardā Virāf XVII; Minokhired II, 123-194.

I.

1. Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda: 'O Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

'When one of the faithful departs this life, where does his soul abide on that night?'

Ahura Mazda answered:

2. 'It takes its seat near the head, singing the *Ustavaiti Gâtha*² and proclaiming happiness: "Happy is he, happy the man, whoever he be, to whom Ahura Mazda gives the full accomplishment of his wishes!" On that night his soul tastes³ as much of pleasure as the whole of the living world can taste.'

¹ See p. 319, note 1.

² The name of the second *Gâtha*, which begins with the word *usta*: the words in the text, 'Happy the man . . . , ' are its opening line (*Yasna* XLII, 1).

³ Literally, sees, perceives.

3. —‘On the second night where does his soul abide?’

4. Ahura Mazda answered: ‘It takes its seat near the head, singing the Ustavaiti Gâtha and proclaiming happiness: “Happy is he, happy the man, whoever he be, to whom Ahura Mazda gives the full accomplishment of his wishes!” On that night his soul tastes as much of pleasure as the whole of the living world can taste.’

5. —‘On the third night where does his soul abide?’

6. Ahura Mazda answered: ‘It takes its seat near the head, singing the Ustavaiti Gâtha and proclaiming happiness: “Happy is he, happy the man, whoever he be, to whom Ahura Mazda gives the full accomplishment of his wishes!” On that night his soul tastes as much of pleasure as the whole of the living world can taste.’

7. At the end¹ of the third night, when the dawn appears, it seems to the soul of the faithful one as if it were brought amidst plants and scents: it seems as if a wind were blowing from the region of the south, from the regions of the south, a sweet-scented wind, sweeter-scented than any other wind in the world.

8. And it seems to the soul of the faithful one as if he were inhaling that wind with the nostrils, and he thinks: ‘Whence does that wind blow, the sweetest-scented wind I ever inhaled with my nostrils?’

9. And it seems to him as if his own conscience were advancing to him in that wind, in the shape of a maiden fair, bright, white-armed, strong, tall-

¹ Thraosta: in Pahlavi rôisman.

formed, high-standing, thick-breasted, beautiful of body, noble, of a glorious seed¹, of the size of a maid in her fifteenth year, as fair as the fairest things in the world.

10. And the soul of the faithful one addressed her, asking: 'What maid art thou, who art the fairest maid I have ever seen?'

11. And she, being his own conscience, answers him: 'O thou youth of good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, of good religion, I am thy own conscience!

'Everybody did love thee for that greatness, goodness, fairness, sweet-scentedness, victorious strength and freedom from sorrow, in which thou dost appear to me;

12. 'And so thou, O youth of good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, of good religion! didst love me for that greatness, goodness, fairness, sweet-scentedness, victorious strength, and freedom from sorrow, in which I appear to thee.

13. 'When thou wouldst see a man making derision² and deeds of idolatry, or rejecting³ (the poor) and shutting his door⁴, then thou wouldst sit singing the Gâthas and worshipping the good waters and Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda, and rejoicing⁵ the faithful that would come from near or from afar.

¹ 'That is to say, from the gods' (Pahl. Comm.).

² Of holy things.

³ Doubtful. The Pahlavi commentary has the following gloss: 'He would not give his friends what they begged for.'

⁴ To the poor:—Urvarô-straya: urvar babâik kart (Pahl. Comm.): âighshân babâ barâ asrûnast (star, to tie, as in frastaretem baresma). Cf. Yt. XXIV, 37, 59.

⁵ With alms to the poor Mazdayasnians (ashô-dâd).

14. 'I was lovely and thou madest me still lovelier; I was fair and thou madest me still fairer; I was desirable and thou madest me still more desirable; I was sitting in a forward place and thou madest me sit in the foremost place, through this good thought, through this good speech, through this good deed of thine; and so henceforth men worship me for my having long sacrificed unto and conversed with Ahura Mazda.

15. 'The first step that the soul of the faithful man made, placed him in the Good-Thought¹ Paradise;

'The second step that the soul of the faithful man made, placed him in the Good-Word² Paradise;

'The third step that the soul of the faithful man made, placed him in the Good-Deed³ Paradise;

'The fourth step that the soul of the faithful man made, placed him in the Endless Lights⁴.'

16. Then one of the faithful, who had departed before him, asked him, saying: 'How didst thou depart this life, thou holy man? How didst thou come, thou holy man! from the abodes full of cattle and full of the wishes and enjoyments of love? From the material world into the world of the spirit? From the decaying world into the undecaying one? How long did thy felicity last?'

17. And Ahura Mazda answered: 'Ask him not what thou askest him, who has just gone the dreary

¹ The so-called Hûmat Paradise (cf. Yt. III, 3).

² The so-called Hûkht Paradise.

³ The so-called Hvarsht Paradise.

⁴ The seat of the Garôthmân.

way, full of fear and distress, where the body and the soul part from one another.

18. '[Let him eat] of the food brought to him, of the oil of Zaremaya¹: this is the food for the youth of good thoughts, of good words, of good deeds, of good religion, after he has departed this life; this is the food for the holy woman, rich in good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, well-principled and obedient to her husband, after she has departed this life.'

II.

19. Zarathustra asked Ahura Mazda: 'O Ahura Mazda, most beneficent Spirit, Maker of the material world, thou Holy One!

'When one of the wicked perishes, where does his soul abide on that night?'

20. Ahura Mazda answered: 'It rushes and sits near the skull, singing the Kima² Gâtha, O holy Zarathustra!

"To what land shall I turn, O Ahura Mazda? To whom shall I go with praying?"

'On that night his soul tastes as much of suffering as the whole of the living world can taste.'

21. —'On the second night, where does his soul abide?'

22. Ahura Mazda answered: 'It rushes and sits near the skull, singing the Kima Gâtha, O holy

¹ Zaremaya is the spring: the word translated oil (raoghna, Persian روغن) might perhaps be better translated 'butter;' the milk made in the middle of spring was said to be the best (Vispêrad I, 2; Pahl. Comm.; cf. Dâdistân XXXI, 14).

² The Gâtha of lamenting, beginning with the word Kãm (Kãm nemê zãm: 'To what land shall I turn?'); Yasna XLVI (XLV).

Zarathustra! "To what land shall I turn, O Ahura Mazda? To whom shall I go with praying?"

'On that night his soul tastes as much of suffering as the whole of the living world can taste.'

23. —'On the third night, where does his soul abide?'

24. Ahura Mazda answered: 'It rushes and sits near the skull, singing the Kima Gâtha, O holy Zarathustra! "To what land shall I turn, O Ahura Mazda? To whom shall I go with praying?"'

'On that night his soul tastes as much of suffering as the whole of the living world can taste.'

25. At the end of the third night, O holy Zarathustra! when the dawn appears, it seems to the soul of the faithful one as if it were brought amidst snow and stench, and as if a wind were blowing from the region of the north, from the regions of the north, a foul-scented wind, the foulest-scented of all the winds in the world.

26-32. And it seems to the soul of the wicked man as if he were inhaling that wind with the nostrils, and he thinks: 'Whence does that wind blow, the foulest-scented wind that I ever inhaled with my nostrils¹?'

¹ A development similar to that in §§ 9-14 is to be supplied here: in the *Ardâ Vîrâf* and the *Minokhired* the soul of the wicked is met by a horrid old woman, who is his own conscience: 'And in that wind he saw his own religion and deeds, as a profligate woman, naked, decayed, gaping, bandy-legged, lean-hipped, and unlimitedly spotted, so that spot was joined to spot, like the most hideous noxious creatures (*khrafstar*), most filthy and most stinking' (cf. § 9).

Then that wicked soul spoke thus: 'Who art thou? than whom I never saw any one of the creatures of *Aûharmazd* and *Akharman* uglier, or filthier or more stinking' (cf. § 10).

To him she spoke thus: 'I am thy bad actions, O youth of evil thoughts, of evil words, of evil deeds, of evil religion! It

33. The first step that the soul of the wicked man made laid him in the Evil-Thought Hell ;

The second step that the soul of the wicked man made laid him in the Evil-Word Hell ;

The third step that the soul of the wicked man made laid him in the Evil-Deed Hell ;

The fourth step that the soul of the wicked man made laid him in the Endless Darkness.

34. Then one of the wicked who departed before him addressed him, saying: 'How didst thou perish, O wicked man? How didst thou come, O fiend! from the abodes full of cattle and full of the wishes and enjoyments of love? From the material world into the world of the Spirit? From the decaying

is on account of thy will and actions that I am hideous and vile, iniquitous and diseased, rotten and foul-smelling, unfortunate and distressed, as appears to thee (cf. §§ 11-12).

'When thou sawest any one who performed the Yazishn and Drôn ceremonies, and praise and prayer and the service of God, and preserved and protected water and fire, cattle and trees, and other good creations, thou practisedst the will of Akharman and the demons, and improper actions. And when thou sawest one who provided hospitable reception, and gave something deservedly in gifts and charity, for the advantage of the good and worthy who came from far, and who were from near, thou wast avaricious, and shuttedst up thy door (cf. § 13).

'And though I have been unholy (that is, I have been considered bad), I am made more unholy through thee; and though I have been frightful, I am made more frightful through thee; though I have been tremulous, I am made more tremulous through thee; though I am settled in the northern region of the demons, I am settled further north through thee; through these evil thoughts, through these evil words, and through these evil deeds, which thou practisedst. They curse me, a long time, in the long execration and evil communion of the Evil Spirit (cf. § 14).

'Afterwards that soul of the wicked advanced the first footstep on Dûsh-hûmat (the place of evil thoughts), &c.' (The Book of Ardâ Virâf, XVII, 12-27, as translated by Haug).

world into the undecaying one? How long did thy suffering last?’

35. Angra Mainyu, the lying one, said: ‘Ask him not what thou askest him, who has just gone the dreary way, full of fear and distress, where the body and the soul part from one another.

36. ‘Let him eat of the food brought unto him, of poison and poisonous stench¹: this is the food, after he has perished, for the youth of evil thoughts, evil words, evil deeds, evil religion after he has perished; this is the food for the fiendish woman, rich in evil thoughts, evil words, and evil deeds, evil religion, ill-principled, and disobedient to her husband.

37². ‘We worship the Fravashi of the holy man, whose name is Asmô-*hvanvant*³; then I will worship the Fravashis of the other holy Ones who were strong of faith⁴.

38². ‘We worship the memory of Ahura Mazda, to keep the Holy Word.

‘We worship the understanding of Ahura Mazda, to study the Holy Word.

‘We worship the tongue of Ahura Mazda, to speak forth the Holy Word.

‘We worship the mountain that gives understanding, that preserves understanding; [we worship

¹ Cf. Yasna XXXI, 20: ‘He who would deceive the holy One, to him afterwards (will be) a long weeping in the dark place, bad food and words of insult. O wicked! this is the place down which your own conscience will bring you through your own deeds.’

² §§ 37–38, 39–40, 41–42 are separate fragments.

³ One of the first disciples of Zoroaster; cf. Yt. XIII, 96.

⁴ Cf. p. 33, note 2.

it] by day and by night, with offerings of libations well-accepted¹.

39². 'O Maker! how do the souls of the dead, the Fravashis of the holy Ones, manifest³ themselves⁴?'

40. Ahura Mazda answered: 'They manifest themselves from goodness of spirit and excellence of mind⁵.'

41⁶. Then towards the dawning of the dawn⁷, that bird Parôdars⁸, that bird Karetô-dâsu⁹ hears the voice of the Fire.

¹ § 38 = Yt. I, 31.

² A Pahlavi translation of the following two fragments is found in MS. 33, Paris, Supplément Persan (edited in *Études Iraniennes*, II).

³ *Kithra* (Paris MS. p. 255).

⁴ 'How do they manifest their assistance?' (Pahl. tr. *ibid.*); that is to say, when do they assist their relations and countrymen? (see Yt. XIII, 49 seq.)

⁵ When men are instinct with good spirit and good thought.

⁶ The Pahlavi translation of this fragment has here §§ 14-16 of the *Âtash Nyâyis*, then §§ 18-19 of *Vendîdâd XVIII*. Therefore the whole passage is to be restored as follows:

Âtar looks at the hands of all those who pass by: 'What does the friend bring to his friend . . . ?' (*Âtash N.* 14.)

And if that passer-by brings him wood holily brought, or bundles of baresma holily tied up . . . , then Âtar . . . will bless him thus:

May herds of oxen grow for thee . . . (*Âtash N.* 15-16).

In the first part of the night, Fire, the son of Ahura Mazda, calls the master of the house for help, saying:

'Up! arise, thou master of the house' (*Vend.* XVIII, 18-19).

'Then towards the dawning of the dawn' (see the text).

⁷ Cf. *Vend.* XVIII, 23.

⁸ 'He who has knowledge made,' or 'He who has the knowledge of what is made' (*kartak dânishn*); his other name Parôdars is 'He who foresees.'

⁹ Here again a large passage is omitted: it can only partly be

42. Here the fiendish Bûshyâsta, the long-handed, rushes from the region of the north, from the regions of the north, speaking thus, lying thus: 'Sleep on, O men! Sleep on, O sinners! Sleep on and live in sin.'

supplied from the Pahlavi translation; the words in brackets refer to Zend texts lost to us:

'Then he flaps his wings and lifts up his voice, saying: "Arise, O men! [and also women, grown-up people, and children, &c. . . . Put on well your girdle and shirt, wash your hands, put your girdle around your body, go and give food to the cattle and recite aloud the five holy Gâthas of Spitama Zarathustra.]"

'Here the fiendish Bûshyâsta . . . ' (see the text). Then the Pahlavi translation has: 'Never care for the three excellent things, good thoughts, good words, good deeds' (cf. Vend. XVIII, 25).

XXIII-XXIV. ÂFRÎN PAIGHAMBAR ZAR- TŪST AND VĪSTÂSP YAST.

‘God taught the *Zendávasta* to Zartusht—a sublime work God said to Zartusht, “Go and before Sháh Gushtásp read this book, that he may come into the faith keep all my counsel and repeat it word by word to Sháh Gushtásp¹.’

Zartusht, in obedience to God, went to the court of Gushtásp: ‘He came forward and called down a blessing on the Sháh².’ Then he read to him the *Zandávasta* and said: ‘Learn its statutes and walk therein. If your desire is towards its laws, your abode shall be in the paradise of heaven. But if you turn away from its commandments, you shall bring down your crowned head to the dust. Your God will be displeased with you, and will overthrow your prosperous condition. At the last you shall descend into hell, if you hear not the counsel of the Almighty³.’

These lines of the Zartusht-Namah are a summary of the following two Yasts. The first, entitled ‘The blessing of the prophet Zartŭst,’ contains the words of blessing addressed by Zarathustra when appearing before the king. These words seem to have followed a similar blessing pronounced by *Gâmâspa*⁴, the prime minister of *Vĭstâspa*⁵.

Yast XXIV contains the exhortations of the prophet to the king to follow and closely adhere to the Law of Mazda. It is a counterpart to the XIXth Fargard of the *Vendĭdâd*, as Zarathustra plays here the same part to *Vĭstâspa* as Ahura does there to Zarathustra. It is, therefore, a summary of the Law, of the duties it

¹ The Zartusht-Namah, translated by E. B. Eastwick, in Wilson’s *Parsi Religion*, p. 495.

² *Ibid.* p. 499.

³ *Ibid.* p. 501.

⁴ See *Yt.* XXIII, 2; whether Anquetil’s statement to that effect (*Zend-Avesta* II, 623) rests on independent tradition or only on the text of our Yast is not clear.

⁵ See above, p. 70, note 1.

enforces and of the rewards it promises. This accounts for the strange disconnection apparent in it, which makes it a *crux interpretum*, as, besides the very corrupt state of the text, the chief difficulty of this Yast arises from the fact that many passages in it are incomplete quotations from the Vendîdâd, or allusions to statements therein¹, which, when supplied, help a good deal to relieve this Yast from its apparent state of utter incoherence.

For this translation I was able to avail myself of a Pahlavi translation, of which a copy was kindly lent to me by Mr. West. That translation is apparently of late date and often manifestly wrong; yet it was very useful to me in several passages, besides its giving a Zend text generally more correct and more correctly divided than the text in Westergaard's edition².

Yast XXIII was originally no independent Yast, being nothing more than the beginning of Yast XXIV, detached from it, with some slight alterations and inversions.

XXIII. ÂFRÎN PAIGHAMBAR ZARTÛST.

1. 'I am a pious man, who speaks words of blessing.'

—'Thou appearest unto me full of Glory.'

And Zarathustra spake unto king Vîstâspa, saying: 'I bless thee, O man! O lord of the country! with the living of a good life, of an exalted life, of a long life. May thy men live long! May thy women live long! May sons be born unto thee of thy own body!

2. 'Mayest thou have a son like *Gâmâspa*, and may he bless thee as (*Gâmâspa* blessed) Vîstâspa (the lord) of the country³!

¹ For instance, §§ 28, 30, 31, 39, &c.

² The various readings in Mr. West's manuscript are indicated by the letter W. in the notes.

³ See the introduction to this Yast and Yt. XXIV, 3, text and note.

‘Mayest thou be most beneficent, like Mazda!

‘Mayest thou be fiend-smiting, like Thraêtaona ¹!

‘Mayest thou be strong, like Gâmâspa ²!

‘Mayest thou be well-armed, like Takhma-
Urupa ³!

3. ‘Mayest thou be glorious, like Yima Khshaêta,
the good shepherd!

‘Mayest thou be instructed with a thousand
senses, like Azi Dahâka, of the evil law ⁴!

‘Mayest thou be awful and most strong, like
Keresâspa ⁵!

‘Mayest thou be a wise chief of assemblies, like
Urvâkhshaya ⁶!

‘Mayest thou be beautiful of body and without
fault, like Syâvarshâna ⁷!

4. ‘Mayest thou be rich in cattle, like an Âthwya-
nide ⁸!

‘Mayest thou be rich in horses, like Pours-aspa ⁹!

‘Mayest thou be holy, like Zarathustra Spitama!

‘Mayest thou be able to reach the Rangha, whose
shores lie afar, as Vafra Navâza was ¹⁰!

‘Mayest thou be beloved by the gods and reve-
renced by men ¹¹!

¹ Cf. Yt. V, 33.

² Cf. Yt. XV, 11.

³ Cf. Yt. V, 29.

⁴ See Yt. XV, 28.

⁵ Cf. Yt. V, 68.

⁶ Cf. Yt. V, 37.

⁷ See p. 64, note 1.

⁸ One belonging to the Âthwya family, of which Thraêtaona was a member. All of them bore names that show them to have been rich in cattle: Pûr-tôrâ, Sôk-tôrâ, Bôr-tôrâ, &c. (‘one with abundant oxen, with useful oxen, with the brown ox, &c.’, Bundahis, tr. West, XXXI, 7, note 8).

⁹ Pours-aspa was the father of Zarathustra. His name means, ‘He who possesses many horses,’ πολὺ-ἵππος.

¹⁰ Cf. Yt. V, 61.

¹¹ Cf. Yt. XXIV, 4.

5. 'May ten sons be born of you ¹! In three of them mayest thou be an Âthravan! In three of them mayest thou be a warrior! In three of them mayest thou be a tiller of the ground ²! And may one be like thyself, O Vistâspa!

6. 'Mayest thou be swift-horsed, like the Sun ³!

'Mayest thou be resplendent, like the moon!

'Mayest thou be hot-burning, like fire!

'Mayest thou have piercing rays, like Mithra!

'Mayest thou be tall-formed and victorious, like the devout Sraosha ⁴!

7. 'Mayest thou follow a law of truth, like Rashnu ⁵!

'Mayest thou be a conqueror of thy foes, like Verethraghna ⁶, made by Ahura!

'Mayest thou have fulness of welfare, like Râma Hvâstra ⁷!

'Mayest thou be freed from sickness and death, like king Husravah ⁸!

8. 'Then the blessing goes for the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones ⁹.

'May it happen unto thee according to my blessing!

¹⁰ Let us embrace and propagate the good thoughts, good words, and good deeds that have been done and that will be done here and elsewhere, that we may be in the number of the good.

¹ Of Vistâspa and his wife Hutaosa.

² Cf. Yt. XXIV, 4.

³ Cf. Sîrôzah, § 11.

⁴ Cf. Yt. XI.

⁵ Cf. Yt. XII, Introduction.

⁶ Cf. Yt. XIV.

⁷ Cf. Yt. XV.

⁸ Kai Khosrav went alive to Paradise (Firdausi).

⁹ He closes his blessing by wishing him bliss in heaven.

¹⁰ Yasna XXXV, 2 (4-5).

‘Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

‘Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

‘[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, . . . give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.’

XXIV. VÎSTÂSP YAST.

I.

1. ‘I am a pious man, who speaks words of blessing,’ thus said Zarathustra to the young king Vîstâspa¹.—‘She² appears to me full of Glory, O Zarathustra!’—‘O young king Vîstâspa! [I bless thee³] with the living of a good life, of an exalted life, of a long life. May thy men live long! May thy women live long! May sons be born unto thee of thy own body⁴!’

2. ‘Mayest thou thyself⁵ be holy, like Zarathustra!

‘Mayest thou be rich in cattle, like an Âthwya-nide⁶!’

‘Mayest thou be rich in horses, like Pourus-aspâ⁷!

‘Mayest thou have a good share of bliss⁸, like king Husravah!

‘Mayest thou have strength to reach the Rangha, whose way lies afar, as Vafra Navâza did⁹.

¹ Literally, O young king Vîstâspa! (or, O my son, king Vîstâspa!)

² The law of Mazda (Pahl.).

³ Understood in âfri-va^kau (who speaks blessing).

⁴ Cf. Yt. XXIII, 1.

⁵ *Khayeus* (= *nafsman*) belongs to § 2 (W.).

⁶ See p. 326, note 8.

⁷ See p. 326, note 9.

⁸ Immortality (cf. Yt. XXIII, 7). W. has *ashem merezô=ahlâyîh patmânîk, amargîg* (Pahl.).

⁹ Cf. Yt. XXIII, 4.

3. 'May ten sons be born of thy own body¹! three as Âthravans², three as warriors³, three as tillers of the ground⁴! May one of them be like *Gâmâspa*⁵, that he may bless thee with great and ever greater happiness⁶!

4. 'Mayest thou be freed from sickness and death, like *Peshô-tanu*⁷.

'Mayest thou have piercing rays, like *Mithra*!

'Mayest thou be warm, like the moon!

'Mayest thou be⁸ resplendent, like fire!

'Mayest thou be long-lived, as long-lived as an old man can be⁹!

5. 'And when thou hast fulfilled a duration of a thousand years, [mayest thou obtain] the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones!

'Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

¹ Cf. Yt. XXIII, 5.

² 'Like *Âturpât*, the son of *Mâhraspand*' (Pahl. Comm.).

³ 'Like *Spenddât* (*Isfendyâr*), the son of *Gûstâsp*' (*ibid.*).

⁴ 'Like *Zav*' (*Uzava*; '*Zav urbes et castella, quae Afrasiab deleverat, refici jussis, aperuit fluvios, quos ille operuerat, agros denuo coluit, qui in optimam, qua antehac floruerant, conditionem redierunt,*' *Hamzah Ispahensis*, p. 24 of the Gottwaldt translation).

⁵ Cf. Yt. XXIII, 2.

⁶ W. has the same text as Yt. XXIII, 2: *yatha dangheus Vistâspâi*, which is interpreted *âfrîn patas obdûnât kīgûn Gâmâsp kart madam matâpat Gûstâsp*.

⁷ *Peshôtanu* was a son of *Vistâspa*: Zarathustra made him drink of a certain sort of milk, and 'he forgot death.' He is one of the seven immortals, and reigns in *Kangdez* (*Zartusht-Namah* and *Bundahis* XXIX, 5).

⁸ *Bavâhi* (W.).

⁹ Doubtful. The Pahlavi translation follows Yt. XXIII, 4, though the text is the same as in Westergaard (only *bavâi* and *zarnumatô* instead of *bavâhi*, *zaranumatô*).

II.

6¹. 'Give² him strength and victory! Give him welfare in cattle and bread³!' thus said Zarathustra to the young king Vîstâspa! 'Give him a great number⁴ of male children, praisers⁵ [of God] and chiefs in assemblies, who smite and are not smitten, who smite at one stroke their enemies, who smite at one stroke their foes, ever in joy and ready to help.

7. 'Ye gods of full Glory, ye gods of full healing, let your greatness become manifest!'

8. Zarathustra addressed him, saying: 'O young king Vîstâspa! May their greatness become manifest as it is called for!

'Ye Waters, impart and give your Glory to the man who offers you a sacrifice!

'This is the boon we beg (for thee) of Ashi Vanguhi⁶, of Râta⁷, with eyes of love.'

9. Pârendi⁸, of the light chariot, follows: 'Mayest thou⁹ become manifest unto him, the young king Vîstâspa!

'May plenty dwell in this house, standing upon high columns and rich in food¹⁰! Thou wilt never

¹ For §§ 6-7, cf. Mâh Nyâyis, 10-11.

² The prayer is addressed to Waters.

³ *Hvâthrô-nahîm*: âsânîh lahmâk.

⁴ *Paourvatâtem*: kebad farzand.

⁵ *Stâhyanâm*: kebad stâyîât.

⁶ See Yt. XVI.

⁷ See Vend. Introd. IV, 30.

⁸ See p. 11, note 5.

⁹ Pârendi.

¹⁰ Plenty will reign in thy house, if thou wilt be liberal to the priest.

offer and give bad food to a priest: for a priest must be to thee like the brightest¹ offspring of thy own blood.'

10. Zarathustra spake unto him: 'O young king Vīstāspa!

'He who supports the Law of the worshippers of Mazda, as a brother or as a friend, he who treats her friendly in any way, looks to keep off want of food from her².'

11. The holy Zarathustra preached that law to Frashaostra³ and Gāmāspa: 'May ye practise holiness and thrive, O young Frashaostra (and Gāmāspa)!'

12. Thus said Ahura Mazda unto the holy Zarathustra, and thus again did Zarathustra say unto the young king Vīstāspa: 'Have no bad priests or unfriendly priests; for bad priests or unfriendly priests will bring about much harm, and, though thou wish to sacrifice, it will be to the Amesha-Spentas as if no sacrifice had been offered⁴.

'Ashem Vohūt: Holiness is the best of all good

III.

13. 'When I teach thee, that thou mayest do the same to thy son⁵, O Vīstāspa! receive thou well that teaching; that will make thee rich in children and rich in milk; rich in seed, in fat, in milk⁶.

¹ Raêvatām *ka* (not rashvatām *ka*) belongs to § 9 (W.).

² W. has, hanairê vaêm aiwi vaina/ (vaêm = Sansk. vayas?).

³ See Yt. XIII, 103. Frashaostra and Gāmāspa were brothers.

⁴ Cf. Vend. XVIII, 1-13. Perhaps, 'Be not bad to the priests! Be not unfriendly to the priest! For he who is bad to the priest, he who is unfriendly to the priest'

⁵ Doubtful.

⁶ Cf. Vend. XXI, 6-7.

14. 'Thus do we announce unto thee, Ahura Mazda, and Sraosha, and Ashi, and the Law of the worshippers of Mazda, with the whole of all her hymns, with the whole of all her deeds, with the whole of her performances; the Law of Mazda, who obtains her wishes, who makes the world grow, who listens to the songs and rejoices the faithful man at his wish; who protects the faithful man, who maintains the faithful man;

15. 'From whom come the knowledge of holiness and the increase in holiness of the world of the holy Principle, and without whom¹ no faithful man² can know holiness.

'To thee³ come every Hâvanan, every Âtarevakhsha, every Frabaretar, every Âberet, every Âsnâtar, every Rathwiskar, every Sraoshâ-varez⁴;

16. 'Every priest, every warrior, every husbandman; every master of a house, every lord of a borough, every lord of a town, every lord of a province;

17. 'Every youth of good thoughts, good words, good deeds, and good religion; every youth who speaks the right words; every one who performs the next-of-kin marriage⁵; every itinerant priest; every mistress of a house; every wandering priest, obedient to the Law.

18. 'To thee come all the performers⁶ (of holiness), all the masters of holiness, who, to the

¹ Doubtful.

² Saoshyantem. W. has srashyantem.

³ To the Law.

⁴ The seven priests engaged in the sacrifice (Vendîdâd, p. 64, note 1).

⁵ The *hvaêtvôdatha* (Vend. Introd. p. xlv, note 7; see West, Pahlavi Texts, II, 389 seq.).

⁶ Thâtur: kâr kartâr (Pahl.).

number of three and thirty¹, stand next to Hāvani, being masters of holiness.

19. 'May they be fully protected² in thee, O young king Vīstāspa! While thou smitest thy adversaries, thy foes, those who hate thee, a hundred times a hundred for a hundred³, a thousand times a thousand for a thousand, ten thousand times ten thousand for ten thousand, myriads of myriads for a myriad.

20. 'Proclaim thou that word, as we did proclaim it unto thee!

'O Maker of the good world! Ahura Mazda, I worship thee with a sacrifice, I worship and forward thee with a sacrifice, I worship this creation of Ahura Mazda.'

21⁴. The young king Vīstāspa asked Zarathustra: 'With what manner of sacrifice shall I worship, with what manner of sacrifice shall I worship and forward this creation of Ahura Mazda?'

22. Zarathustra answered: 'We will make it known unto thee, O young king Vīstāspa!

'Go towards that tree that is beautiful, high-growing, and mighty amongst the high-growing trees, and say thou these words: "Hail to thee! O good, holy tree, made by Mazda! Ashem Vohû!"

23. 'Let the faithful man cut off twigs of baresma, either one, or two, or three: let him bind them and

¹ See Yasna I, 10 (33).

² Thrâtôtēmô belongs to § 19 (W.).

³ He kills a hundred times a hundred of them, while they kill a hundred of his people.

⁴ For this clause and the following two, cf. Vend. XIX, 17 seq., text and notes.

tie them up according to the rites, being bound and unbound according to the rites.

‘The smallest twig of Haoma, pounded according to the rules, the smallest twig prepared for sacrifice, gives royalty to the man (who does it).’

Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

IV.

24¹. Zarathustra said : ‘O young king Vîstâspa !

‘Invoke Ahura Mazda, who is full of Glory, Ahura Mazda, and the sovereign Heaven, the boundless Time, and Vayu who works highly.

25. ‘Invoke the powerful Wind, made by Mazda, and Fate.

‘Repeat thou those words, that the god invoked may give thee the boon wished for ; that thou, strong, and belonging to the creation of the good Spirit, mayest smite and take away the Drug and watch with full success those who hate thee ; smite down thy foes, and destroy at one stroke thy adversaries, thy enemies, and those who hate thee².

26. ‘Proclaim thou those prayers : they will cleanse thy body from deeds of lust³, O young king Vîstâspa !

‘I will worship thee, O Fire, son of Ahura Mazda, who art a valiant warrior. He falls upon the fiend Kuzda⁴, who is drunken without drinking, upon the men of the Drug, the slothful ones⁵, the wicked Daêva-worshippers, who live in sin.

¹ Cf. Vend. XIX, 13.

² Cf. Yt. V, 53.

³ Paourvô vasta saota : read skyaothna (cf. § 40), as in Vend. XVI, 14 (paourvô-vasna skynothna).

⁴ Cf. Vend. XI, 9 and Bundahis XXVIII, 42.

⁵ Cf. Vend. XIX, 41 ; better : ‘on the Drugaskân’ (the sons of the Drug ? see Bund. XXXI, 6).

27. 'He¹ trembles at the way² made by Time and open both to the wicked and to the righteous.

'They³ tremble at the perfume of his soul⁴, as a sheep does on which a wolf is falling.

28. 'Reciting the whole collection of the Staota Yêsnya⁵ prayers brings one up all the way to the blessed Garô-nmâna, the palace beautifully made. That indeed is the way.

29. 'That man does not follow the way of the Law, O Zarathustra⁶! who commits the Baodhô-(varsta) crime⁷ with a damsel and an old woman⁸,' said Zarathustra to the young king Vîstâspa.

'Let him⁹ praise the Law, O Spitama Zarathustra! and long for it and embrace the whole of the Law, as an excellent horse turns back from the wrong way and goes along the right one, smiting the many Druges¹⁰.

30. 'Go forward with praises, go forward the way of the good Mazdean law and of all those who walk in her ways, men and women.

¹ The dead man.

² The *Kinva*-bridge (Vend. XIX, 29).

³ The fiends (Vend. XIX, 33). ⁴ The soul of the righteous.

⁵ See page 152, note 1.

⁶ The Pahlavi has, 'the way of Zarathustra' (lâ Zartûhstîg râs yakhsûnît).

⁷ Wilful murder (Vend. p. 84, note 1).

⁸ To procure miscarriage (see Vend. XV, 12-14).

⁹ The sinner.

¹⁰ 'As a horseman on the back of a good horse, when he has gone the wrong way, perceiving that he has lost his way, turns back his horse from that direction and makes him go the right way; so thou, turn back thy horse to the right way; that is to say, turn him to the way of the Law of Mazda; that is to say, receive the Law' (Pahl. Comm.).

'He who wishes to seize the heavenly reward¹, will seize it by giving gifts to him who holds up (the Law) to us² in this world here below³

31. 'Let him⁴ give (the Law) to him who is unfriendly to her, that he may become friendly.

'Wash thy hands with water, not with gômêz⁵, and let thy son, who will be born of thy wife⁶, do the same.

'Thus thy thought will be powerful to smite him⁷, who is not so⁸; thy speech will be powerful to smite him, who is not so; thy deed will be powerful to smite him.

32. "'Hear me! Forgive me⁹!"—We, the Ameshaspentas, will come and show thee, O Zarathustra! the way to that world¹⁰, to long glory in the spiritual world, to long happiness of the soul in Paradise;

33. 'To bliss and Paradise, to the Garô-nmâna of Ahura Mazda, beautifully made and fully adorned,

¹ Bliss, eternal life.

² Yô nô nidârô anghê: lanman dîn barâ dâstâr (Pahl.).

³ Naêdhka vanghê paiti usta vanghê buyât; saoshyâs dîs verethraga. I cannot make anything of these words, nor reconcile them with the Pahlavi translation: 'It is not fair when he wishes weal for his own person; that is to say, when, being satisfied himself, he does not satisfy other people and wishes comfort for himself. (Make the Law of Mazda current, till the time when) the victorious Sôshyôsh will make it current.' The last three Zend words appear to be abridged from a longer passage.

⁴ The faithful man.

⁵ This is an allusion to the Bareshnûm purification (Vend. VIII, 39). The unclean man washes himself with gômêz first and with water last.

⁶ Doubtful.

⁷ The sinner.

⁸ Friendly to the Law.

⁹ He recites the prayer Sraotâ mê, merezdâta mê (Yasna XXXIII, 11).

¹⁰ The world above.

when his soul goes out of his body through the will of fate, when I, Ahura Mazda, when I, Ahura Mazda, gently show him his way as he asks for it.

‘Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good’

V.

34. ‘They¹ will impart to thee full brightness and Glory.

‘They will give him² quick³ and swift horses, and good sons.

‘He wishes to go to the Law, the young king Vîstâspa.’

Zarathustra said: ‘Let him who is unfriendly to her become a follower of the Law of Mazda, such as we proclaim it.

35. ‘Proclaim thou ever (unto the poor): “Ever mayest thou wait here for the refuse that is brought unto thee, brought by those who have profusion of wealth⁴!” Thus the Drug will not fall upon thee and throw thee away; thou wilt wield kingly power there⁵.

36. ‘The Law of Mazda will not deliver thee unto pain⁶. Thou art entreated (for charity) by the whole of the living world, and she⁷ is ever standing at thy door in the person of thy brethren in the faith: beggars are ever standing at the door of the stranger, amongst those who beg for bread.

¹ The Amesha-Spentas (see § 46).

² To Vîstâspa.

³ Hathwadhka: Pahl. tîzki.

⁴ Cf. Vend. III, 29.

⁵ If he practises charity he will be a king even in Garôthmân.

⁶ Aspahê, from a-spa (no comfort, anâsânîh tangîh, Pahl. Comm.).

⁷ The Law.

‘Ever will that bread be burning coal upon thy head¹.

‘The good, holy Râta², made by Mazda, goes and nurses thy bright offspring³.’

37. Zarathustra addressed Vîstâspa, saying: ‘O young king Vîstâspa! The Law of Mazda, O my son! will give thy offspring the victorious strength that destroys the fiends.

‘Let no thought of Angra Mainyu ever infect thee, so that thou shouldst indulge in evil lusts, make derision and idolatry, and shut (to the poor) the door of thy house⁴.

38⁵. ‘Âtar thus blesses the man who brings incense to him, being pleased with him and not angry, and fed as he required: “May herds of oxen grow for thee, and increase of sons! May fate and its decrees bring thee the boons thou wishest for! Therefore do thou invoke and praise (me) excellently in this glorious world! That I may have unceasing food, full of the glory of Mazda⁶ and with which I am well pleased.”

39. ‘O Mazda! take for thyself the words of our praise: of these words I speak and speak again, the strength and victorious vigour, the power of health and healing, the fulness, increase, and growth.

‘Bring it together with the words of hymns up to the Garô-nmâna of Ahura Mazda. He will⁷ first

¹ Hvarishnî dâgh pun rôismani lak yahvûnât (Pahl. Comm.).

² Charity.

³ If thou art charitable, thy children will thrive.

⁴ See Yt. XXII, 13.

⁵ Cf. Vend. XVIII, 27.

⁶ *Hv*arnamazdau (W.).

⁷ He who will pronounce all prayers and hymns: the full formula is found in the Âbân Nyâyis, § 8.

enter there. Therefore do thou pronounce these prayers.

‘Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

VI.

40. ‘Converse ye with the Amesha-Spentas,’ said Zarathustra unto the young king Vīstāspa, ‘and with the devout Sraosha, and Nairyô-sangha, the tall-formed, and Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda, and the well-desired kingly Glory.

41. ‘Men with lustful deeds address the body¹; but thou, all the night long, address the heavenly Wisdom²; but thou, all night long, call for the Wisdom that will keep thee awake.

‘Three times a day raise thyself up and go to take care of the beneficent cattle.

42. ‘Of these men may the lordship³ belong to the wisest of all beings, O Zarathustra! May their lord belong to the wisest, O Zarathustra! Let him show them the way of holiness, let him show them at once the way thereto, which the Law of the worshippers of Mazda enters victoriously. Thus the soul of man, in the joy of perfect holiness, walks over the bridge, known afar, the powerful *Kīvat*-bridge⁴, the well-kept, and kept by virtue.

43. ‘How the worlds were arranged was said to thee first, O Zarathustra! Zarathustra said it again to the young king Vīstāspa; therefore do thou⁵ praise him⁶ who keeps and maintains the moon and the sun.

¹ Cf. § 26.

² Cf. Vend. IV, 45; XVIII, 6.

³ The supervision and care.

⁴ See § 27.

⁵ Thou Vīstāspa.

⁶ Ahura Mazda.

‘He who has little friendship for the Law, I have placed him down below to suffer.’

44. Thus said Angra Mainyu, he who has no Glory in him, who is full of death: ‘This is an unbeliever, let us throw him down below; this is a liar, or a traitor to his relatives, and like a mad dog who wounds cattle and men; but the dog who inflicts wounds pays for it as for wilful murder¹.

‘The first time he shall smite a faithful man, the first time he shall wound a faithful man, he shall pay for it as for wilful murder.

‘Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

VII.

45. ‘Mayest thou receive², O holy young king Vîstâspa! (a house) with a hundred³, ten thousand large windows, ten thousand small windows, all the year long⁴, O holy Vîstâspa! never growing old, never dying, never decaying, never rotting, giving plenty of meat, plenty of food, plenty of clothes to the other worshippers of Mazda.

46. ‘May all boons be bestowed upon thee, as I proclaim it unto thee! May the Amesha-Speñtas impart to thee their brightness and glory and plenty⁵! May they give him quick and swift horses and good sons, strong, great in all things, powerful to sing the hymns.

¹ See Vend. XIII, 31.

² In Paradise; see Vend. XVIII, 28, text and note.

³ Satayâre: that stands a hundred years (?). The Vend. XVIII, 28 has ‘with a hundred columns.’

⁴ Uninjured by the changes of temperature.

⁵ Cf. § 34.

47. 'He wields his power according to the wish of Ahura Mazda, the Good Spirit, and for the destruction of the Evil Spirit, whichever of two men goes quicker to perform a sacrifice (to Ahura); but if he chooses to perform the sacrifice and prayer to us not in the right way, he does not wield the right power, he will not reign¹.

48. 'He will receive bad treatment in the next world, though he has been the sovereign of a country, with good horses to ride and good chariots to drive. Give royalty to that man, O Zarathustra! who gives royalty unto thee with good will².

49³. 'Thou shalt keep away the evil by this holy spell: "Of thee [O child!] I will cleanse the birth and growth; of thee [O woman!] I will make the body and the strength pure; I make thee a woman rich in children and rich in milk; a woman rich in seed, in milk, and in offspring. For thee I shall make springs run and flow towards the pastures that will give food to the child."

50. 'Do not deliver me⁴ into the hands of the fiend⁵; if the fiend take hold of me, then fever with loss of all joy will dry up the milk of the good Spenta-Ârmaiti⁶. The fiend is powerful to distress, and to dry up the milk of the woman who indulges in lust and of all females.

51. 'The perfume of fire, pleasant to the Maker,

¹ In Paradise (Pahl. Comm.).

² Doubtful.

³ Cf. Vend. XXI, 6-7.

⁴ The Law.

⁵ That is to say, let not impiety prevail.

⁶ If impiety prevails, the earth will grow barren (cf. Vend. XVIII, 64).

Ahura Mazda, takes them¹ away from afar;²; and all those that harm the creation of the Good Spirit are destroyed³;

52. 'Whom Mithra, and Rashnu Razista, and the Law of the worshippers of Mazda wish to be taken far away, longing for a man who is eager to perform and does perform the ceremonies he has been taught; . . .⁴

'Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

VIII^b.

53. 'The words of the Vahistôisti⁵ Gâtha are to be sung: "Happy is he, O holy Vistâspa! happy the man, whoever he be, to whom Ahura Mazda gives the full accomplishment of his wishes."

'Where does his soul abide on that night⁷?'

54. Ahura Mazda answered: 'O my son, Frashaostra! It takes its seat near the head, singing the Ustavaiti Gâtha and proclaiming happiness: "Happy is he, happy the man whoever he be!"

'On the first night, his soul sits in Good Words⁸;

¹ The demons (see Vend. VIII, 80).

² Nôi/ ta/ paiti vohu manô katha sîsraya ayaka. The Pahlavi Commentary has: 'That is to say, good will happen to thee through the good will of Âtar (fire).'

³ Te kinashanya (W.;—read taêka nashanya?); âigh harvaspîn bêshîtârân min spinâk minôi dâmân lvit apêtâk avîn yahvûnt (Pahl. Comm.).

⁴ Yatha ya/ tê fravaokâmi (fravaokâma, W.) puthrô bere-thyâ/ sairimananâm (sairi mananâm, W.) bakhedhrâi (translated as hakhedhrâi: dôstîh, friendship).

⁵ This chapter is borrowed, though slightly altered, from Yt. XXII.

⁶ Read ustavaiti (? cf. § 54 and Yt. XXII, 2): the Vahistôisti Gâtha is the fifth and last Gâtha.

⁷ On the night of his departing.

⁸ Not in the Good-Word Paradise, to which he will go later

on the second night, it sits in Good Deeds; on the third night, it goes along the ways (to Garô-nmâna).

55. 'At the end of the third night, O my son, Frashaostra! when the dawn appears, it seems to the soul of the faithful one as if it were brought amidst plants [and scents: it seems as if a wind were blowing from the region of the south, from the regions of the south]¹, a sweet-scented wind, sweeter-scented than any other wind in the world, and it seems to his soul as if he were inhaling that wind with the nose, and it asks, saying: "Whence does that wind blow, the sweetest-scented wind I ever inhaled with my nose?"

56. 'And it seems to him as if his own conscience were advancing to him in that wind, in the shape of a maiden fair, bright, white-armed, strong, tall-formed, high-standing, thick-breasted, beautiful of body, noble, of a glorious seed, of the size of a maid in her fifteenth year, as fair as the fairest things in the world.

57. 'And the soul of the faithful one addressed her, asking: "What maid art thou, who art the fairest maid I have ever seen?"

58. 'And she, being his own conscience, answers him: "O thou youth, of good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, of good religion! I am thy own conscience.

"Everybody did love thee for that greatness, goodness, fairness, sweet-scentedness, victorious strength, and freedom from sorrow, in which thou

(§ 61), but in the thought and delightful remembrance of his good words (cf. Yt. XXII, 2).

¹ Supplied from Yt. XXII, 7.

dost appear to me ; [and so thou, O youth of good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, of good religion ! didst love me for that greatness, goodness, fairness, sweet-scentedness, victorious strength, and freedom from sorrow, in which I appear to thee.

59. “When thou wouldst see a man¹] making derision and deeds of idolatry, or rejecting (the poor) and shutting (his door), then, thou wouldst sit, singing the Gâthas, and worshipping the good waters, and Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda, and rejoicing the faithful that would come from near or from afar.

60. “I was lovely, and thou madest me still lovelier ; I was fair, and thou madest me still fairer ; I was desirable, and thou madest me still more desirable ; I was sitting in a forward place, and thou madest me sit in the foremost place, through this good thought, through this good speech, through this good deed of thine ; and so henceforth men worship me for my having long sacrificed unto and conversed with Ahura Mazda.”

61. ‘The first step that the soul of the faithful man made, placed him in the Good-Thought Paradise ; the second step that the soul of the faithful man made, placed him in the Good-Word Paradise ; the third step that the soul of the faithful man made, placed him in the Good-Deed Paradise ; the fourth step that the soul of the faithful man made, placed him in the Endless Light.

62. ‘Then one of the faithful, who had departed before him, asked, saying : “How didst thou depart this life, thou holy man ? How didst thou come,

¹ From Yt. XXII, 12-13.

thou holy man! from the abodes full of cattle and full of the wishes and enjoyments of love? from the material world into the world of the spirit? from the decaying world into the undecaying one? How long did thy felicity last?"

63. And Ahura Mazda answered: 'Ask him not what thou askest him, who has just gone the dreary way, full of fear and distress, when the body and the soul part from one another.

64. '[Let him eat] of the food brought to him, of the oil of Zaremaya: this is the food for the youth of good thoughts, of good words, of good deeds, of good religion, after he has departed this life; this is the food for the holy woman, rich in good thoughts, good words, and good deeds, well-principled, and obedient to her husband, after she has departed this life.'

65. Spitama Zarathustra said to the young king Vistâspa: 'To what land shall I turn, O Ahura Mazda? To whom shall I go with praying¹?'

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

¹ This clause, taken from Yt. XXII, 20, shows that the second part of Yt. XXII (§§ 19-36), describing the fate of the wicked, should be inserted here.

NYÂYIS.

NYÂYIS.

A Nyâyis is properly a begging prayer, as opposed to Sitâyis, a prayer of praise. It is a term particularly applied to five prayers addressed to the Sun, to Mithra, to the Moon, to Waters, and to Fire. Every layman over eight years old is bound to recite the Nyâyis: he recites it standing and girded with his Kôstî.

The Sun Nyâyis is recited three times a day, at the rising of the sun (Gâh Hâvan), at noon (Gâh Rapitvin), and at three o'clock in the afternoon (Gâh Uzîren). The Mithra Nyâyis is recited with the Sun Nyâyis, as Mithra follows the sun in its course (see Yt. X, 13).

The Moon Nyâyis is recited three times a month: first, at the time when it begins to be seen; second, when it is at the full; third, when it is on the wane.

The Waters Nyâyis and the Fire Nyâyis are recited every day, when one finds oneself in the proximity of those elements. The Fire Nyâyis is recited with the Penôm on (see Vend. p. 168, 7).

The first four Nyâyis must be recited especially on the days over which the Izads invoked preside; that is to say, on the Khôrshêd, Mihir, Mâh, and Âbân days (the eleventh, sixteenth, twelfth, and tenth days of the month)¹.

I. KHÔRSHÊD NYÂYIS.

1. [Hail unto the Sun, the swift-horsed! May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced²!]

¹ Anquetil, *Zend-Avesta* II, pp. 6, 22, 565-566.

² This clause is wanting in most manuscripts.

Hail unto thee, O Ahura Mazda, in the threefold way!¹ [Hail unto thee] before all other creatures!

Hail unto you, O Amesha-Spēntas, who are all of you of one accord with the Sun!

May this prayer come unto Ahura Mazda! May it come unto the Amesha-Spēntas! May it come unto the Fravashis of the holy Ones! May it come unto the Sovereign Vayu of the long Period²!

2. [Hail unto the Sun, the swift-horsed!]

May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced! May Angra Mainyu be destroyed! by those who do truly what is the foremost wish (of God).

I recite the 'Praise of Holiness'³.

3. I praise well-thought, well-spoken, and well-done thoughts, words, and deeds. I embrace all good thoughts, good words, and good deeds; I reject all evil thoughts, evil words, and evil deeds⁴.

4. I give sacrifice and prayer unto you, O Amesha-Spēntas! even with the fulness of my thoughts, of my words, of my deeds, and of my heart: I give unto you even my own life.

I recite the 'Praise of Holiness'³:

'Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good. Well is it for it, well is it for that holiness which is perfection of holiness'⁴!

5⁵. Hail to Ahura Mazda!

Hail to the Amesha-Spēntas!

Hail to Mithra, the lord of wide pastures!

Hail to the Sun, the swift-horsed!

Hail to the two eyes of Ahura Mazda!

Hail to the Bull!

Hail to Gaya⁶!

¹ In thought, speech, and deed (Pers. and Sansk. transl.).

² Vayu, as being the same with Fate (Vend. Introd. IV, 17), became identified with Time.

³ The Ashem Vohû.

⁴ See p. 22.

⁵ § 5 = Yasna LXVIII (22-23 [LXVII, 58-67]).

⁶ Gaya Maretan, the first man.

Hail to the Fravashi of the holy Spitama Zarathustra!

Hail to the whole of the holy creation that was, is, or will be!

May I grow in health of body through Vohu-Manô, Khshathra, and Asha, and come to that luminous space, to that highest of all high things¹, when the world, O Spenta Mainyu! has come to an end!

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

6. We sacrifice unto the bright, undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun.

We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, who is truth-speaking, a chief in assemblies, with a thousand ears, well-shapen, with ten thousand eyes, high, with full knowledge, strong, sleepless, and ever awake².

7. We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of all countries, whom Ahura Mazda made the most glorious of all the gods in the world unseen³.

So may Mithra and Ahura, the two great gods, come to us for help!

We sacrifice unto the bright, undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun.

8. We sacrifice unto Tistrya, whose sight is sound⁴.

We sacrifice unto Tistrya; we sacrifice unto the rains of Tistrya⁵.

We sacrifice unto Tistrya, bright and glorious.

We sacrifice unto the star Vanant⁶, made by Mazda.

¹ The sun: 'May my soul arrive at the sun-region!' (Pahl. transl.)

² Yt. X, 7. ³ In heaven. ⁴ See Yt. VIII, 12, note 7.

⁵ See Yt. VIII, 12, note 2.

⁶ See Yt. XX.

We sacrifice unto Tistrya, the bright and glorious star.

We sacrifice unto the sovereign sky.

We sacrifice unto the boundless Time.

We sacrifice unto the sovereign Time of the long Period.

We sacrifice unto the beneficent, well-doing Wind.

We sacrifice unto the most upright *Kista*¹, made by Mazda and holy.

We sacrifice unto the good Law of the worshippers of Mazda.

We sacrifice unto the way of content².

We sacrifice unto the golden instrument³.

We sacrifice unto Mount Saokanta, made by Mazda³.

9. We sacrifice unto all the holy gods of the world unseen.

We sacrifice unto all the holy gods of the material world.

We sacrifice unto our own soul.

We sacrifice unto our own Fravashi.

We sacrifice unto the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the holy Ones.

We sacrifice unto the bright, undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun.

10. I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra

¹ See Yt. XVI.

² Or, of pleasure.

³ 'On Mount Saokanta there is a golden tube coming from the root of the earth; the water that is on the surface of the earth goes up through the hole of that tube to the heavens, and being driven by the wind, spreads everywhere, and thus the dew is produced' (Sansk. transl.).

Unto the bright, undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun;

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification¹

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

[We sacrifice] unto the Ahurian waters², the waters of Ahura, with excellent libations, with finest libations, with libations piously strained³.

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, give him health of body, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

II. MIHIR NYÂYIS.

1⁴. Hail unto thee, O Ahura Mazda, in the threefold way! [Hail unto thee] before all other creatures!

Hail unto you, O Amesha-Speentas, who are all of you of one accord with the Sun!

May this prayer come unto Ahura Mazda! May it come unto the Amesha-Speentas! May it come unto the Fravashis of the holy Ones! May it come unto the sovereign Vayu of the long Period!

2. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

3. I praise well-thought, well-spoken, and well-done thoughts, words, and deeds

4. I give sacrifice and prayer unto you, O Amesha-Speentas!

5. Hail to Ahura Mazda!

May I grow in health of body through Vohu-Manô, Khshathra, and Asha, and come to that luminous space, to that highest of all high things, when the world, O Speenta Mainyu, has come to an end!

6⁵. We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, who is truth-speaking, a chief in assemblies, with a thousand ears, well-shapen, with ten thousand

¹ The whole of the Khôrshêd Yast is inserted here.

² Rivers considered as Ahura's wives (cf. Ormazd et Ahriman, § 32).

³ From Yasna LXVIII, 10 (LXVII, 30); cf. p. 34.

⁴ §§ 1-5 = Khôrshêd Nyâyis, §§ 1-5.

⁵ §§ 6-7 = Khôrshêd Nyâyis, §§ 6-7.

eyes, high, with full knowledge, strong, sleepless, and ever awake.

7. We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of all countries, whom Ahura Mazda made the most glorious of all the heavenly gods.

So may Mithra and Ahura, the two great gods, come to us for help!

We sacrifice unto the undying, shining, swift-horsed Sun.

8¹. We sacrifice unto Tistrya, whose sight is sound

9. We sacrifice unto all the holy gods of the world unseen

10². I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda, a follower of Zarathustra

11³. We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of wide pastures, who is truth-speaking, a chief in assemblies, with a thousand ears, well-shapen, with a thousand eyes, high, with full knowledge, strong, sleepless, and ever awake.

We sacrifice unto the Mithra around countries ;

We sacrifice unto the Mithra within countries ;

We sacrifice unto the Mithra in this country ;

We sacrifice unto the Mithra above countries ;

We sacrifice unto the Mithra under countries ;

We sacrifice unto the Mithra before countries ;

We sacrifice unto the Mithra behind countries.

12. We sacrifice unto Mithra and Ahura, the two great, imperishable, holy gods ; and unto the stars, and the moon, and the sun, with the trees that yield baresma. We sacrifice unto Mithra, the lord of all countries.

13⁴. For his brightness and glory, I will offer unto him a sacrifice worth being heard

¹ §§ 8-9 = *Khôshêd Nyâyis*, §§ 8-9.

² *Yt. X*, o.

³ §§ 11-12 = *Yt. X*, 144-145.

⁴ §§ 13-15 = *Yt. X*, 4-6.

We offer up libations unto Mithra

14. May he come to us for help! May he come to us for ease!

15. I will offer up libations unto him, the strong Yazatâ, the powerful Mithra

Yêzhê hâtâm: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda

16¹. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of Mithra

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

III. MÂH NYÂYIS.

1². Hail to Ahura Mazda! Hail to the Amesha-Spêntas! Hail to the Moon that keeps in it the seed of the Bull! Hail to thee when we look at thee! Hail to thee when thou lookest at us!

2³. Unto the Moon that keeps in it the seed of the Bull; unto the only-created Bull and unto the Bull of many species;

Be propitiation

3. Hail to Ahura Mazda!

4. How does the moon wax? How does the moon wane?

5. We sacrifice unto the Moon that keeps in it the seed of the Bull

6. And when the light of the moon waxes warmer

7. I will sacrifice unto the Moon

8. For its brightness and glory

9. Yathâ ahû vairyô: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

10⁴. Give us strength and victory! Give us welfare in cattle and in bread! Give us a great number of male children, praisers [of God] and chiefs in assemblies, who smite and are not smitten, who smite at one stroke their enemies, who smite at one stroke their foes, ever in joy and ready to help.

¹ Yt. X, 146. ² § 1=Mâh Yast, § 1. ³ §§ 2-9=Mâh Yast.

⁴ §§ 10-11; cf. Yt. XXIV, 6-8.

11. Ye gods of full Glory, ye gods of full healing, let your greatness become manifest! let your assistance become manifest as soon as you are called for! and ye, Waters, manifest your Glory, and impart it to the man who offers you a sacrifice.

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

IV. ÂBÂN NYÂYIS.

1. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

Unto the good Waters, made by Mazda; unto the holy water-spring ARDVI ANÂHITA; unto all waters, made by Mazda; unto all plants, made by Mazda,

Be propitiation¹

2². Ahura Mazda spake unto Spitama Zarathustra, saying: 'Offer up a sacrifice, O Spitama Zarathustra! unto this spring of mine, Ardvi Sûra Anâhita

3. 'Who makes the seed of all males pure, who makes the womb of all females pure for bringing forth

4. 'The large river, known afar, that is as large as the whole of the waters that run along the earth

5. 'All the shores of the sea Vouru-Kasha are boiling over, all the middle of it is boiling over, when she runs down there

6. 'From this river of mine alone flow all the waters that spread all over the seven Karshvares;

7. 'I, Ahura Mazda, brought it down with mighty vigour, for the increase of the house, of the borough, of the town, of the country³.

8. 'He from whom she will hear the staota yêsnya⁴; he from whom she will hear the Ahuṇa

¹ As Âbân Yast, o.

³ Cf. Âbân Yast, § 6.

² §§ 2-6 = Âbân Yast, §§ 1-5.

⁴ See above, p. 152, note 1.

vairya¹; he from whom she will hear the Ashavahista²; he by whom the good waters will be made pure; with the words of the holy hymns³, he will enter first the Garô-nmâna of Ahura Mazda: she will give him the boons asked for⁴.

9⁵. 'For her brightness and glory, I will offer her a sacrifice worth being heard; I will offer her a sacrifice well-performed. Thus mayest thou advise us when thou art appealed to! Mayest thou be most fully worshipped.

'We sacrifice unto the holy Ardvi Sûra Anâhita with libations. We sacrifice unto Ardvi Sûra Anâhita, the holy and master of holiness, with the Haoma and meat, with the baresma, with the wisdom of the tongue, with the holy spells, with the words, with the deeds, with the libations, and with the rightly-spoken words.

'Yêzhê hâtâm: All those beings of whom Ahura Mazda

10. 'Yathâ ahû vairyo: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

'I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of the holy water-spring Anâhita.

'[Give] unto that man brightness and glory, give him the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.'

V. ÂTAS NYÂVIS.

1⁶. Take me out⁷, O Ahura! give me perfect piety and strength

4⁸. May Ahura Mazda be rejoiced!

¹ The Yathâ ahû vairyo prayer.

² The Ashem Vohû prayer.

³ Cf. Yt. XXII, 2, and Yt. XXIV, 39.

⁴ Cf. Âbân Yast, §§ 19, 23, 27, 35, 39, 47, &c.

⁵ Cf. Âbân Yast, § 9.

⁶ §§ 1-3 = Yasna XXXIII, 12-14.

⁷ 'Deliver me from Ahriman' (Pahl. Comm.).

⁸ As in Ormazd Yast, 0.

Hail unto thee, O Fire, son of Ahura Mazda, thou beneficent and most great Yazata!

¹ Ashem Vohû : Holiness is the best of all good

I confess myself a worshipper of Mazda

For sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification

Unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; unto thee Âtar, son of Ahura Mazda !

5². Unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; unto the Glory and the Weal, made by Mazda ; unto the Glory of the Aryas, made by Mazda ; unto the Glory of the Kavis, made by Mazda.

Unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; unto king Husravah ; unto the lake of Husravah ; unto Mount Âsnavant, made by Mazda ; unto Lake Kaêkasta, made by Mazda ; unto the Glory of the Kavis, made by Mazda.

6. Unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda ; unto Mount Raêvant, made by Mazda ; unto the Glory of the Kavis, made by Mazda.

Unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda.

Unto Âtar, the beneficent, the warrior ; the God who is a full source of Glory, the God who is a full source of healing.

Unto Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda, with all Âtars ; unto the God Nairyô-sangha, who dwells in the navel of kings ;

Be propitiation, with sacrifice, prayer, propitiation, and glorification.

Yathâ ahû vairyô : The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

7³. I bless the sacrifice and invocation, and the

¹ As in Ormazd Yast, o.

² Cf. Sirôzah, § 9.

³ §§ 7-16 = Yasna LXII, 1-10 (LXI). See the Sanskrit translation in Études Iraniennes, II.

good offering, the beneficent offering, the offering of assistance offered unto thee, O Âtar, son of Ahura Mazda!

Thou art worthy of sacrifice and invocation; mayest thou receive the sacrifice and the invocation in the houses of men.

Well may it be unto the man who ever worships thee with a sacrifice, holding the sacred wood in his hand, the baresma in his hand, the meat in his hand, the mortar¹ in his hand.

8. Mayest thou have the right² wood! Mayest thou have the right incense! Mayest thou have the right food! Mayest thou have the right fuel³!

Mayest thou be full-grown for protecting (this house)! Mayest thou grow excellent for protecting!

9. Mayest thou burn in this house! Mayest thou ever burn in this house! Mayest thou blaze in this house! Mayest thou increase in this house! Even for a long time, till the powerful restoration of the world, till the time of the good, powerful restoration of the world!

10. Give me, O Âtar, son of Ahura Mazda! lively welfare, lively maintenance, lively living; fulness of welfare, fulness of maintenance, fulness of life;

Knowledge, sagacity; quickness of tongue; (holiness of) soul; a good memory; and then the understanding that goes on growing and the one that is not acquired through learning⁴;

¹ The mortar for pounding the Haoma.

² In quality and quantity.

³ *Upasayêni*: what is added to keep up the fire when lighted (Pers. transl.).

⁴ The *gaoshô-srûta khratu* and the *âsna khratu* (see p. 7, note 1).

And then the manly courage,

11. Firm-footed, unsleeping, (sleeping only) for a third part of the day and of the night, quick to rise up from bed, ever awake ;

And a protecting, virtuous offspring, able to rule countries and assemblies of men, well growing up, good, freeing us from the pangs (of hell), endowed with a good intellect, that may increase my house, my borough, my town, my country, my empire.

12. Give me, O Âtar, son of Ahura Mazda! however unworthy I am¹, now and for ever, a seat in the bright, all-happy, blissful abode of the holy Ones.

May I obtain the good reward, a good renown², and long cheerfulness for my soul³!

13. Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda, lifts up his voice to all those for whom he cooks their evening meal and their morning meal⁴. From all those he wishes a good offering, a beneficent offering, an offering of assistance, O Spitama!

14. Âtar looks at the hands of all those who pass by: 'What does the friend bring to his friend? What does he who comes and goes bring to him⁵ who stays motionless?'

We sacrifice unto Âtar, the valiant warrior⁶.

15. And if the passer-by brings him wood holily brought, or bundles of baresma holily tied up, or

¹ Yâ mê afrasæunghæu angha': yâ me abhât ayogyatâ (Sansk. transl.).

² Here.

³ Above.

⁴ Khshafnîm, sâûrîm (Études Iraniennes, II, 161).

⁵ Âtar.

⁶ 'Bodily he is infirm (armêst, motionless); spiritually he is a warrior' (Pahl. Comm.).

twigs of Hadhânaêpata¹, then Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda, well pleased with him and not angry, and fed as required, will thus bless him :

16. 'May herds of oxen grow for thee, and increase of sons; may thy mind be master of its vow, may thy soul be master of its vow, and mayest thou live on in the joy of the soul all the nights of thy life.'

This is the blessing which Âtar speaks unto him who brings him dry wood, well-examined by the light of the day, well-cleansed with godly intent².

17. Yathâ ahû vairyo: The will of the Lord is the law of holiness

I bless the sacrifice and prayer, and the strength and vigour of Âtar, the son of Ahura Mazda³

Ashem Vohû: Holiness is the best of all good

18³. We gladden by our virtue thy mighty Fire, O Ahura! thy most quick and powerful Fire, who shows his assistance⁴ to him who has ever comforted him, but delights in taking vengeance with his hands on the man who has harmed him.

¹ See Vend. p. 94, note 1.

² Cf. Vend. XVIII, 26-27.

³ From Yasna XXXIV, 4.

⁴ 'In the var nîrang' (Pahl. Comm.), that is to say, in the fire ordeal; see above, p. 170, note 3.

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TRANSLITERATION OF ORIENTAL ALPHABETS ADOPTED FOR THE TRANSLATIONS OF THE SACRED BOOKS OF THE EAST.

CONSONANTS.	MISSIONARY ALPHABET.			Sanskrit.	Zend.	Pehlvi.	Persian.	Arabic.	Hebrew.	Chinese.
	I Class.	II Class.	III Class.							
	Gutturales.									
1 Tenuis	k			क	𐬀	𐬀	ک	ك	כ	k
2 " aspirata	kh			ख	𐬁	𐬁	کھ	كھ	כھ	kh
3 Media	g			ग	𐬂	𐬂	گ	گ	ג	g
4 " aspirata	gh			घ	𐬃	𐬃	گھ	گھ	גھ	gh
5 Gutturo-labialis	q						ق	ق	ק	q
6 Nasalis	ñ (ng)			ङ	{ 𐬄 (ng) }					
7 Spiritus asper	h			ह	{ 𐬅 (N) }	𐬅	ه	ه	ה	h, hs
8 " lenis	'				𐬆 (h)	𐬆	ه	ه	ה	
9 " asper faucalis	'h						ه	ه	ה	
10 " lenis faucalis	'h						ه	ه	ה	
11 " asper fricatus	'h						ه	ه	ה	
12 " lenis fricatus	'h						ه	ه	ה	
Gutturales modificatae (palatales, &c.)										
13 Tenuis		k		च	𐬇	𐬇	چ	چ	כ	k
14 " aspirata		kh		छ	𐬈	𐬈	چھ	چھ	כھ	kh
15 Media		g		ज	𐬉	𐬉	ج	ج	ג	g
16 " aspirata		gh		झ	𐬊	𐬊	جھ	جھ	גھ	gh
17 " Nasalis		ñ		ञ	𐬋	𐬋	چھ	چھ	כھ	ñ

CONSONANTS (continued)	MISSIONARY ALPHABET.			Sanskrit.	Zend.	Pehlvi.	Persian.	Arabic.	Hebrew.	Chinese.
	I Class.	II Class.	III Class.							
18 Semivocalis	y			य	𐬨	𐬨	ي	ي	י	y
19 Spiritus asper					𐬨	𐬨				
20 " lenis		(y)			𐬨	𐬨				
21 " asper assibilatus		(y)		य	𐬨	𐬨	ش	ش		
22 " lenis assibilatus		s			𐬨	𐬨				z
23 Tenuis	t			त	𐬨	𐬨	ت	ت	ת	t
24 " aspirata	th			थ	𐬨	𐬨			ת	th
25 " assibilata	d		TH	द	𐬨	𐬨				
26 Media	dh			ध	𐬨	𐬨				
27 " aspirata					𐬨	𐬨				
28 " assibilata	n		DH	न	𐬨	𐬨				n
29 Nasalis	l			ल	𐬨	𐬨				l
30 Semivocalis					𐬨	𐬨				
31 " mollis 1		l			𐬨	𐬨				
32 " mollis 2			L		𐬨	𐬨				
33 Spiritus asper 1	s			स	𐬨	𐬨				s
34 " asper 2		s (s)			𐬨	𐬨				
35 " lenis	z				𐬨	𐬨				z
36 " asperimus 1		z (z)			𐬨	𐬨				z
37 " asperimus 2		z (z)			𐬨	𐬨				z

Dentales modificatae

VOWELS.	MISSIONARY ALPHABET.			Sanskrit.	Zend.	Pehlvi.	Persian.	Arabic.	Hebrew.	Chinese.
	I Class.	II Class.	III Class.							
	0									
1 Neutralis										ǎ
2 Laryngo-palatalis										ā
3 " labialis										ā
4 Gutturalis brevis				अ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
5 " longa		(a)		आ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
6 Palatalis brevis			(i)	इ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
7 " longa				ई	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
8 Dentalis brevis				उ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
9 " longa				ऊ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
10 Lingualis brevis				ऋ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
11 " longa				ॠ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
12 Labialis brevis		(u)		उ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
13 " longa				ऊ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
14 Gutturo-palatalis brevis		(e)		ए	ε(ε)ξ(ε)	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
15 " longa		(ai)		ऐ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
16 Diphthongus gutturo-palatalis		āi		ई	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
17 " "		ei (ēi)		ई	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
18 " "		oi (ōu)		ई	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
19 Gutturo-labialis brevis		o		ओ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
20 " longa		ō (au)		औ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
21 Diphthongus gutturo-labialis		āu		औ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
22 " "		eu (ēu)		औ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
23 " "		ou (ōu)		औ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
24 Gutturalis fracta		ä		अ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
25 Palatalis fracta		i		इ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
26 Labialis fracta		ü		उ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā
27 Gutturo-labialis fracta		ö		ऊ	ا	ا	ا	ا	ا	ā

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