

beings.” What is due to deities, holy sages and progenitors, is a debt due to superiour beings ; debts due to men are due to inferiour beings. But HELAYUDHA, confidering this as solely relating to debts due to human beings, expounds the terms, degrading debts *due* to creditors. In the *Ret-nácara* it is remarked, that they are degrading by reason of the extreme *fin* consequent to debts undischarged.

BUT MISRA cites the text of CĀTYĀYANA (Book III, Chapter IV, v. XV): it is therefore his opinion, that an independent son, or one who has neither father nor mother and is not under the age of sixteen years, is liable for the payment of debts. It may be here noticed incidentally, that “until his sixteenth year,” signifies to the *nearest* limit of his sixteenth year: consequently he is a minor until the close of his fifteenth year. The construction of the text is this ; ‘an adolescent is also called a minor.’ But *strictly* the term (*pógenda*) is applicable only to a child under the age of ten years, agreeably to the text cited by SRĪDHARASWĀMĪ.

INFANCY extends to the fifth year, childhood is limited to the tenth ; adolescence continues to the sixteenth year, when puberty *commences*.\*

“UNDER eight years,” or before the commencement of his eighth year, he is an infant (*śiśu*) : and he also is a minor, *but distinguished from an adolescent*. Another is also distinguished, called a young infant (*cumāra*) to the commencement of his fifth year ; agreeably to the *same* text cited by RAGHUNANDANA, “infancy extends to the fifth year.” The use of this distinction regards penance or expiation and the like. But here minority must be taken to the end of the fifteenth year ; and this must be understood of a computation by vulgar or *śāvana* time, from the day of his birth. Afterwards he is adult or competent to affairs, as is expressly declared by CĀTYĀYANA. But a certain author has remarked, that, if a youth become conversant with

\* A PART only of the verse was here cited. The distinctions may be thus recapitulated : a minor (*bāla*) is in early infancy to the end of his fourth year and called *cumāra* ; in law he is an infant to the end of his seventh year and in this period of his life is called *śiśu* ; he is called a boy (*pógenda*) from his fifth, to the end of his ninth, year ; and his adolescence as *cisōra* continues from the tenth, to the end of the fifteenth, year.





affairs before that age, in consequence of auspicious fortune merited in a former existence, or if a youth remain unacquainted with affairs beyond that age, through ill auspices, both these should be considered accordingly *as adult or as under age*. But sages have mentioned an age, near to which puberty may be expected.

FROM all this detail it appears, that the son shall also dwell hereafter in a region of horror, if he do not redeem his father from debt.

## CLXXXIX.

VRĪHASPATI:—A HOUSEKEEPER shall discharge a debt contracted by his uncle, brother, son, wife, servant, pupil, or dependants, for the support of the family *during his absence*.

IT is here implied, that a debt, contracted even by others for the support of the family, must be discharged by the housekeeper.

*The Retnācara.*

THE meaning therefore is, that, since the terms conclude in the plural number, which conveys the sense of “and the like,” *therefore* maternal uncles and the rest, as well as other persons, are comprehended in the text. The principle of the law may be here stated; should a son competent to affairs be at hand, a debt, contracted by divided brethren or the like unauthorized by him, is not valid: but, in the case of parceners, if any one of five brothers forbids the contracting of the debt, and is able to support the family by other means, the debt, contracted by another brother, is due by the borrower alone, and shall not be paid by him who opposed the debt. Yet, if the money so borrowed be used by him who opposed the debt, or by his dependant, being unable to supply sufficient funds for the support of the whole family or of his own immediate dependants, it must be discharged by him. A little has been thus mentioned on a wide subject. In fact the whole relates to fraudulent practice. Yet if he, who resisted the debt, maintain his dependants out of the money borrowed against his consent, without any fraudulent practice, he must nevertheless discharge the debt.



CXC.

**MENU:—**SHOULD even a flave make a contract *in the name of his absent master* for the behoof of the family, that master, whether in his own country or abroad, shall not rescind it.

“ A SLAVE ;” a mancipated servant and the like. “ That master,” literally the fenior, but here signifying his lord. The Retnácara.

By the term used (*jyáyas*) is signified best, as well as eldest ; but here metaphorically the master. This is expressed in the gloss, “ but here signifying his lord.” In fact, he is best or preeminent, since he supports the family.

CXCI.

**NĀREDA:—**WHATEVER debt has been contracted for the use of the family by a pupil, an apprentice, a flave, a wife, or an agent, must be paid by the head of the family.

“ AN agent ;” one who acts *in his service*. “ A debt ;” money taken up *on loan*. The Retnácara.

“ A PUPIL ;” one, who learns texts of scripture. “ An apprentice ;” a student *in general*. “ A flave ;” born in the house of his master or the like. “ An agent ;” a hired servant or other person, who has engaged in service for a day, a month, or the like. By this text it is declared, that a debt, contracted for the behoof of the family, by any person whomsoever connected with that family, is valid.

CXCII.

**VISHNU:—**A debt, of which payment has been previously promised, or which was contracted by any person for the behoof of the family, must be paid by the housekeeper.

“ A DEBT” must be here supplied. A debt, even though contracted for  
the



the purposes of traffick, but of which payment has been promised by the housekeeper, must be paid by him; but a debt, contracted for the benefit of the family by any person whomsoever, shall be paid by the housekeeper. Such is the exposition of the *Retnâcara*. “Promised” here signifies “of which payment has been promised.”

CXCIII.

CĀTYĀYANA:—WHAT has been borrowed for the benefit of the family, or during distress, (while *the principal* was disabled, seized by the king, or afflicted with disease,) or in consequence of a foreign invasion,

2. Or for the nuptials of his daughter, or for funeral rites; all such debts contracted by *one of* the family, must be discharged by the chief of *that family*.

“CHIEF” is in the sixth case with an active sense. It must therefore be discharged “by the chief” of *that family*.

The *Retnâcara*, RAGHUNANDANA and others.

“DISABLED;” happening to be then incapable of earning wealth. “Seized, or afflicted with sickness” (*grībīta-vyādbhitē*); “seized,” that is, seized by the king; the terms, “seized” and “diseased,” are joined in apposition: the sense therefore is, while the principal is confined by the king for some offence, or is afflicted with disease. Or the apposition may be in the form named *carmadbārāya*, the first term being *grībī* housekeeper, and the last term, *itab* gone, as in the example, ‘having bathed and being smeared with sanders wood;’ or in the same form of composition but resolvable into this sense, “and that housekeeper be gone,” that is, be absent. By the import of the word housekeeper, the religious anchorite is excluded; for an anchorite does not return to his house. Since he could not discharge a debt, the term taken generally would be unmeaning; therefore it is limited by the annexed term, housekeeper.

OR the text may be read *grībīta-vyādbhitē*, contracting a disease; an apposition



sition in the form called *babubríbi*, instanced in the expression “ a monkey ascending a tree.” Should the principal be so circumstanced, a debt, contracted by any person connected with him (the text must be so supplied), is *a debt* contracted during distress. All such debts must be paid by the chief of the family: this construction will be suggested by the subsequent verse. A debt may also be contracted by a person unconnected with him, employed by one who is connected with him: such is the practice.

“ IN consequence of a foreign invasion ;” a debt, contracted for the purpose of expatriating by one who absconds through fear of a foreign prince, is *a debt* contracted during distress. “ For funeral rites ;” for the obsequies of a parent or the like.

CONSEQUENTLY, the chief of the family being disabled, a debt, contracted by any person connected with him, for the support of that family, for guarding against the violence of a king, for the cure of a distemper, and (if *gríbhíta* be expounded absent householder) for defraying the travelling charges of one, who wishes to expatriate with the view of acquiring wealth, for relief from a general calamity, for the celebration of a daughter’s nuptials, or for the performance of obsequies for a parent or the like, must be paid by that chief of the family. Such is the sense. It is illustrative of a general meaning, and intends any debt contracted for the accomplishment of some business, which being omitted even in consequence of poverty, sin or calamity must ensue.

*Gríbhítam vyádbhité* is a reading found in some places, particularly in the *Dáyatarwa*: the sense is obvious ; “ *contracted during sickness.*”

THE principle of the law should be noticed : in the case of a daughter’s nuptials, for so much expense only, as preserves from infraction the usage of the principal’s family, may another contract debts ; not for the celebration of splendid nuptials : the whole of what is borrowed for unauthorized expenses, must be paid by the borrower ; but expenses, which are suitable to the usage of his family, must necessarily be admitted by a master able to discharge them. Consequently, should he be seized with a distemper, or unwarily go to a foreign





reign land, a debt may be contracted by any person connected *with him*, to defray the expenses required for such a purpose, as estimated by five persons. This may be apprehended by the wife.

MUST a debt, contracted for the behoof of the family, without the consent of the principal, be paid by him or not? On this point CĀTYĀYANA propounds *a text already cited* (IX).

A DEBT contracted by a son, a slave, and the rest, even without the assent of the absent principal, for the maintenance of his family, that absent principal must discharge: this BHRĪGU approves. Such is the construction of the *text* (IX).

CHANDĒSWARA.

HERE it should be noticed, that, in the expression “even without his assent,” the word “even” connects this case with that of assent. For instance; the chief of a family, intending a journey to a foreign country, thus addresses his son, servant, or the like; “the family must be maintained by thee, contracting debts, or otherwise obtaining funds;” or he went abroad with such an intention *unexpressed*: in these cases his assent is declared or implied. But, if it be not so, he does not assent; still, however, the debt must be discharged by the chief of the family.

#### CXCIV.

NĀREDA:—A FATHER must equally pay the debt of his son, contracted either by his own appointment, or for the support of his family, or in a time of distress.

“A TIME of distress;” a season of calamity.

The *Retnācara*.

THIS shall be here discussed; when a father, afflicted with a disease, remains altogether at home; and his son, slave, or the like, contracts a debt for the support of the family, but with the knowledge of the father; must the debt be in that case paid by the father or not? It is answered, three disjunc-



tive particles occurring in the sentence, "either by his own appointment, &c." his own appointment and the rest are stated as three grounds of payment, mutually unconnected. Consequently, since *the borrowing* for the support of the family is unconnected with the father's appointment, that debt must be discharged by the father in the case proposed. In like manner "absent," in the preceding text (IX), is illustrative of a general sense.

It might be here observed, that, if the principal, when he went abroad, or when he was himself seized by a distemper or the like, forbade the contracting of debts, but his son or the rest, flighting his commands, contracted debts for the support of the family, those debts need not be paid in such cases by the father; for there can be no representative in a matter expressly forbidden by the principal: and "unforbidden" must be supplied in the texts which notice debts contracted for the support of the family. Let it not be objected, that inconsistency with approved usage must follow, since a master, thus relieved from distress by money borrowed by his slave, even though forbidden by himself, would be exonerated from that debt. The money has been expended by the compassionate slave or lender, for a moral purpose. If the loan were made for the sake of accumulating wealth, why did the party lend it in breach of an express prohibition? For this fault, the loss may fall on the slave or on the lender.

AGAIN; if the master of the family forbid the contracting of debts by his son and the rest for the support of his family, and the son or other person, flighting that prohibition, do contract debts and support the family, still the same rule should be affirmed. It must, however, be admitted, that the chief of the family is guilty of the offence consequent on refusing support to his family. In fact, that debt should in such a case be discharged by the master of a family, who strives to observe a virtuous conduct; but the king shall not compel him to pay it. Such in effect is the sense. However, it is a great sin on the part of him, who travels to a foreign country, *previously* forbidding the contracting of debts, without considering the necessary end of supporting his family. Here the fourth particle (*vá*) has a connective sense, for it is declared that the particle *vá* denotes disjunction, comparison and connexion. Consequently the full meaning is, that the father ought to pay all such debts.





## CXC.V.

CA'TYA'YANA:—WHAT a man has promised, in health or in sickness, for a religious purpose, must be given; and, if he die without giving it, his son shall doubtless be compelled to deliver it. \*

THAT, concerning which a man has declared, "this sum must be paid by me to that man," or, in other words, what a man has promised, his son shall be compelled to deliver; but, if he die after delivering it himself, it shall not be *again* paid by his son: this the sage declares, "if he die without giving it." It is intimated by the expression, "for a religious purpose," that the son is under no necessity of delivering what has been promised to harlots or the like. The text is expounded by JĪMŪTA VĀHANA and others as relating to this subject.

BUT we thus expound it; the master of the family being gone to a foreign country, or diseased, or the like, a debt contracted by his son, his servant or the like, and made known to him, must be paid by the chief of the family when he returns from that foreign country, or recovers from the disease. But, if he die without paying it, the debt must be discharged by his son, or by the successor to the estate, or other person liable to the payment of it; on failure of the first respectively, by the next in succession. "For a religious purpose," or from a religious motive; that is with a view to the strict observance of duty: the construction is, he must pay it on that account; meaning, that otherwise duty is violated.

BY all this detail the obligation on a son to discharge his father's debt has been propounded. The payment of a debt contracted for the support of the family has been incidentally mentioned. A distinction in regard to the payment of debts by a grandson shall be now delivered.

## CXC.VI.

CA'TYA'YANA:—A DEBT of the paternal grandfather, which is proved, or which is partly liquidated, must be dif-

\* Cited in Book IV, Chapter IV, at v. III, and there expounded as relating to gifts.



charged *by the grandson* ; but never shall a debt, contracted for immoral uses, or which was contested by his father, be paid *by the grandson*.

“ PROVED ;” established by evidence. “ Which is partly liquidated ;” which his father had begun to pay, but of which a balance remains due. “ Contracted for immoral uses ;” incurred for losses at play, for spirituous liquors or the like. Sums due for losses at play, for spirituous liquors and the like, shall be subsequently noticed. “ Contested by his father ;” which he disputed, averring that it was not due by him. Such a debt need not be paid by the grandson, according to the *Retnâcara*.

“ OR which is partly liquidated ;” the particle may here bear a connective sense. It consequently connects the debt partly liquidated with that, which is proved to be due. But, in fact, “ partly liquidated ” is mentioned as confirming the certainty in respect of the debt. Accordingly another text, cited in the *Retnâcara*, omits the terms “ balance of a debt liquidated.”

#### CXCVII.

CĀTYĀYANA : — BHRĪGU ordains, that a debt, devolving from the grandfather, which was proved, and acknowledged by the father, must be discharged by grandsons, if it were not contracted for immoral uses, nor *already* paid by the sons.

2. THE rule shall be the same in regard to the debts of the grandfather, which have not been discharged by *other* grandsons, nor by his *own* sons : but a debt of the grandfather shall be paid by his grandsons without interest.

“ PROVED ;” established by evidence. “ Not contracted for immoral uses ;” not incurred for losses at play, for spirituous liquors and so forth. “ Nor *already* paid ;” not *already* discharged.

A DEBT of his grandfather, not paid by the sons of the eldest son, nor  
 by



by his own father or uncles, must be discharged by another grandson. Such is the sense of the second verse. But a certain author proposes a reading on the second measure of this verse, *na dattam vāpi tat swatab* instead of *na dattam vāpi tat sutaiḥ*, and expounds it, a debt of the grandfather, which has not been already paid or acquitted by the grandfather himself nor by his sons,\* the father and uncles of the person in question, must be discharged by the grandson. “*Swatab*” has the sense of the third case.

### CXCVIII.

CĀTYĀYANA: — AFTER the death of his father, debts of his grandfather must be carefully discharged by the grandson; but a debt contracted by an ancestor is not recoverable from the fourth in descent.

A DEBT, which was originally contracted by the fourth ancestor or great grandfather, reaching his descendant, namely the great grandson, recedes or is not recoverable: the great grandson or remoter descendant need not discharge it. Such is the literal sense according to the *Retnācara*. It follows of course, that the son or grandson must discharge it.

### CXCIX.

NA'REDA: — AN undisputed debt of the grandfather, which has been successively due by him and his sons, but has remained undischarged by them, shall be paid by his grandsons; but it is not recoverable from a person, who is fourth in descent from the debtor.

“SUCCESSIVELY due;” due by the grandfather and father consecutively.  
 The *Retnācara*.

A DEBT, contracted by the grandfather, affects him in the first place, next his son, and lastly his grandson. “Proved,” which occurs in pre-

\* We must therefore read in the first measure “*putraib*” by sons, instead of “*pautraib*” by grandsons.





ceding texts, has been explained "established by evidence." In what does the proof consist?

CC.

CATYA'YANA :— BUT, should a considerable sum be claimed, so much only as the creditor or claimant may prove by the evidence of witnesses, shall he recover as a just debt.

IF a considerable sum be claimed; if the claimant aver, "so much was borrowed of me by this man, or by his father, or his grandfather," and the borrower, his son, or grandson, answer *the plaint* by denying its truth, so much only as the creditor justifies by the evidence of witnesses, or proves to be due, shall he recover from the debtor; not the whole sum, which he claimed *but does not prove*. Such is the explanation according to the *Retnácara*. Hence, if a large sum be claimed, and part be proved and part unproved, it is not right to affirm, that the whole claim is false, because it was partly false. This is declared *by the text*.

"By the evidence of witnesses;" a mere instance of evidence in general.

CHANDÉ'SWARA.

SINCE it is not specified from whom it shall be recovered, it follows, that the whole of what is proved must be paid by him, whoever he be, by whom such debts ought to be paid. But it must be paid without interest by a grandson, as has been already noticed. On failure of a grandson, the great grandson or other person, who succeeds to the estate, must be understood in the regular order of succession to heritage. VA'CHESPATI MISRA here observes, that such debts only, as would be payable by a son, shall be paid by another heir and the rest: but it shall be paid by these without interest; for interest has not been ordained in this case. Such only is the distinction.

WHAT debts of the father should be paid by a son, MENU declares by excepting others (CLI).

"MONEY





“ MONEY due by a surety ;” this is restricted to sureties for appearance or for honesty. The *Retnācara*.

CONSEQUENTLY surety in the second verse denotes also *the surety for good behaviour*.

“ IDLY promised ;” an unprofitable gift *promised*.

The *Retnācara*.

IT in effect signifies a gift promised with no view to a moral purpose.

MENU:—FOR religious purposes gifts are made to priests ; for the sake of fame, to musicians and actors.

“ LOST at play (CLI) ;” due in consequence of gaming. It consequently signifies any debt contracted for a stake in playing with dice, or for the purchase of things used in gaming. If a fine to the king be incurred by gaming with dice, and that fine cannot be paid without contracting a debt, should the offender contract a debt for that purpose, shall it be discharged by his son or not? The answer is, although that debt be occasioned by gaming with dice, yet, being contracted in a time of distress, it must be discharged. “ Due for spirituous liquors ;” in consequence of drinking spirituous liquors ; borrowed for the purpose of *buying* intoxicating liquors, and so forth.

THIS is restricted to money due on these accounts by persons not authorized to game or drink spirituous liquors.

The *Retnācara*.

GAMING is authorized by the system of law on the festival called *dyūta-pratipet* ; and the use of spirituous liquors is authorized by law on the celebration of the sacrifice named *Sautrāmeñi* ; to certain mixed classes the *constant* use of spirituous liquors is allowed by custom: a debt contracted by the father for these purposes, in such circumstances, must be paid by his son. Such is the notion suggested in the *Retnācara*.

“ WHAT





“ WHAT remains unpaid of a fine or toll ;” for instance, a fine being due to the king for some offence, if the father die after paying half the amount of that fine, the balance shall not afterwards be paid by his son. ‘ Nor what remains unpaid of a toll.’ Toll signifies a duty of custom payable at wharfs and the like. For example ; the father, having obtained indulgence on the grounds of friendship or the like, has only discharged half of the regulated customs, which are paid to the king’s officers by traders resorting to markets or the like on the business of traffick ; returning home he happens to die : in that case, the remainder need not be paid by his son. The same term (*śulca*) also signifies a nuptial present given to a bride at the time of her marriage, and the like.

## CCI.

VRĪHASPATI:—THE sons are not compellable to pay sums due by their father for spirituous liquors, for losses at play, for promises made without any consideration, or under the influence of lust or of wrath ; or sums, for which he was a surety, *except in the cases beforementioned* ; or a fine, or a toll, or the balance of either.

Sums due for spirituous liquors, or losses at play, money idly promised, and the balance of a fine or toll, have been already explained. A promise made under the influence of lust, or under the influence of wrath, shall be subsequently explained.

The *Retnācara*.

MISRA expounds presents idly made, presents idly promised. He conceives, that, were they actually given, they must necessarily be delivered, because the property of the father is devested.

## CCII.

GO'TAMA:—MONEY due by a surety, a commercial demand, a toll, the price of spirituous liquors, a loss at play, and a fine, shall not involve the sons of the debtor.





DEBTS originating in suretyship, commerce and the rest shall not involve the sons ; they shall not be paid by the sons of the debtor.

The *Retnācara*.

THIS appears on a cursory view to be the purport of the gloss ; a debt incurred by becoming a surety ( for instance, a man has become surety, and, the debtor dying, the sum becomes due by the surety ; a debt so incurred), a debt contracted for commerce, for a toll, for spirituous liquors, for a loss at play, for a fine, need not be paid by the son of the debtor ; he shall only discharge a debt incurred on a moral consideration, or for an usual cause, or for the support of the family.

VA'CHESPATI MISRA expounds " sums for which he was a surety, " sums due by a debtor, for whose appearance or honesty he was surety ; these, and sums become due by the father in commerce or the like, shall not involve the sons. He expounds the text, sums due by a surety for the appearance or honesty of the debtor, because he thinks the son of a surety for payment must necessarily discharge the debt, under the text of MENU ( CL ). Money due in commerce may be thus instanced : some person, making a contract with this man's father, delivered certain sums of money to him, as the price of barley or the like, on an agreement in this form, " I shall receive an advantage above the quantity which may be equivalent to the sum advanced at a price to be arbitrated by five persons ; " the vender dies, after delivering to the buyer goods equivalent to the advance at the arbitrated price ; the remainder need not be delivered by the son. Again ; the price of spirituous liquors, the cost of dice and the like, a stake at play, a fine originally small, or the balance of a large fine, need not be paid by a son after the death of his father.

BOTH these opinions shall be discussed : and first, the gloss of the *Retnācara*. Since the word " debt " does not occur in the text of GŌTAMA, what should suggest " a debt contracted in consequence of suretyship ? " It would be inconsistent with the reason of the law. If the father were surety for payment, the debt, though contracted by a stranger, must be paid by his son ; as is ordained in the system of jurisprudence : how can it be reasonable,



that the son should not in this case discharge the debt though actually contracted by his father? It is also said, that a debt, contracted on a commercial account, need not be paid by the son: how can that be pertinent? Why should not the debt be paid by the son, who participates in the benefits of that traffick, or is *at least* naturally competent to benefit by it? If the term (*sulca*) be explained a nuptial present instead of a toll, it has been already mentioned, that a debt, though contracted by another on this account, must be admitted by the master of the family; why should not the son admit such a debt contracted by his father? If it be explained a toll payable at a wharf or the like, that is a cause consistent with usage *and good morals*; it appears therefore, that it ought to be paid. Why should not a debt, contracted for the payment of a fine, be discharged by the son? Since a man atones for his crime by paying the fine, a debt, contracted to discharge a fine, is contracted on a moral account. Let it not be objected, that this text, being placed under the title of debt, positively concerns debt alone; and, since it is a rule not to strain a text, even money borrowed, or otherwise due, on account of a fine need not be paid by a son. In his gloss on the text of MENU above cited (CLI), CULLŪCABHATTA says, after the death of his father a son is not liable for the payment of a fine or toll, or the balance of either, which was demandable from his father. He does not say, that a debt, contracted on account of a fine, need not be paid.

### CCIII.

VYĀSA also declares:—NEITHER a fine, nor a toll, nor the balance due for either, shall be *necessarily* paid by the son of the debtor; nor any debt for a cause repugnant to good morals.

ON this text the authors of the *Retnācara* comment; since the balance of a fine is suggested by the *general* term “a fine,” and is nevertheless repeated, the sense must be, that, if the amercement be great, it must be paid, but not the small arrear of such a fine; but, if the amercement be small, no part of it need be paid *by the son*: consequently “fine,” in this text, signifies an inconsiderable fine; and “toll,” an inconsiderable toll. In like manner, since VYĀSA and MENU have noticed, under the title of debt,



finer and the like which are not debts, it is not reasonable to explain the words fine and toll, which occur in the text of GÓTAMA, as signifying debts contracted for such causes. Consequently “debt,” in the gloss of the *Retnācara*, signifies *money due*, or sums similar to debts. It therefore coincides with the gloss of MISRA. Or the text of GÓTAMA may be expounded in this manner. The terms *may be connected* and signify a commercial toll, or duties payable at wharfs and the like. “Commercial toll” may nevertheless intend nuptial presents also.

THE expression in the text of VYĀSA (translated, “any debt for a cause repugnant to good morals”) is explained by MISRA, ‘excluded from usual causes.’ Consequently that debt, which is contracted for some civil purpose consistent with the prescriptive usage of good men, must be paid by sons and the rest; but if it be the reverse, it need not be discharged.

IN fact, the import of the expression used by VYĀSA is this; after the death of the father, a fine due by him need not be paid by his son; surely the balance of a fine need not be paid: but, if the son, erroneously paying a fine to the king, have left some part of it undischarged, and be now impleaded by any man, that fine, due by the father, was not payable by the son, and therefore he shall not discharge the balance of it. Nor shall he receive back what he had paid to the king: the second term is only propounded to forbid the payment of a mere balance. The difficulties, which will be noticed, may be accordingly removed.

THEY are as follow. Among the many various fines ascending to the highest amercement, it is difficult to determine, which shall be deemed considerable, which inconsiderable: and no reason appears, why an inconsiderable fine should not be paid, and why a considerable fine should be paid. Again; if a very small part of the greatest fine have been paid by the father, it is agreed on all hands, that his son shall not be compelled to discharge the remainder: but in another case, he must discharge the whole fine due by the father, amounting to somewhat less than that *greatest fine*; which forms a great disparity. This and other *objections may be urged*. A debt, contracted for the making of a garden, pool, or the like, undertaken on religious considerations, must



be considered as incurred for religious purposes. It appears, that a debt, contracted for the structure of a house, a garden or the like, to be enjoyed by future generations, or for increase of wealth *by commerce*, must be paid by a son, who enjoys the benefit of it, or is competent to enjoy it. Even a debt, contracted for the sake of wearing delicate apparel and the like, must be paid by a son, since it has not been enumerated among debts which he need not discharge. This is right. Some, however, think, that this, like money idly promised, need not be paid by the son.

HERE an incidental observation may be made : when a man, unable to make immediate payment of tolls due at wharfs or the like, gives a surety to the king's officer, and both the merchant and surety afterwards die, it shall not in that case be paid by the son of the surety ; for there would be great disparity in requiring from the son of the surety payment of that, which need not be paid by the son of the merchant himself. Consequently whatever must be discharged by the son of a debtor, that only need be discharged by the son of a surety for payment.

CĀTYĀYANA explains promises made under the influence of lust or of wrath.

#### CCIV.

CĀTYĀYANA :—WHAT a man has promised, with or without a writing, to give to a woman who had another husband before, let the judge consider as a debt contracted under the influence of lust:

2. But what has been promised to gratify resentment by hurting *another* or destroying *his* property, let the judge consider as *a debt* incurred under the influence of wrath.

HENCE the rule cannot be strained.

MISRA.

CONSEQUENTLY, when the expression, " incurred under the influence of lust,"



lust," is taken in its literal sense; what is promised by a man to his own wife, might be considered as a debt incurred under the influence of lust: to prevent such wrest, CĀTYĀYANA has propounded this particular explanation.

WHAT has been promised, with or without a written engagement, to a woman who had another husband before, or, if that suffice not, what has been borrowed and given to her, is a debt contracted under the influence of lust. The expression, " a woman who had another husband before," intends only a woman not *legally* married to the giver.

The *Retnācara*.

Is not that, which is promised to a woman who had another husband before, alone considered as granted under the influence of lust; why should the author add " borrowed and given to her?" The objection is ill founded, since " debt" would be unmeaning. " Not legally married " signifies not legally married to the party himself. Consequently whatever is promised, or borrowed *and given*, for the abduction of a woman, with whom intercourse is criminal, must be considered as a debt incurred under the influence of lust.

THE second verse is explained in the *Retnācara*; what is borrowed to give away for the purpose of destroying another's property, or injuring another man, through resentment, is a debt incurred under the influence of wrath. Here debt must be understood, to complete the similarity between engagements made under the influence of lust and of wrath. The construction therefore is, " that, which has been so promised, let the judge consider as a debt incurred under the influence of wrath." It was first promised, and afterwards borrowed and given. Hence, resentment being roused by mutual contention in respect of some effects, one promises them to priests, declaring, " I will give this to a priest;" not being able to give away those effects, he wishes to give the value of them, but, unable to give it out of his own property, contracts a debt; that debt might be considered as incurred under the influence of wrath. To prevent such wrest, CĀTYĀYANA has propounded this explanation.



THESE alone are called promises made under the influence of lust or of wrath before the debt was contracted.

The *Retnācara*.

THE meaning of the gloss may be thus explained : when money has been promised to an adulteress, or promised to gratify resentment by injuring another or the like, it is cursorily explained, that such are promises made under the influence of lust or of wrath. Consequently a debt contracted to fulfil such a promise, and money so promised, need not be paid by the son or other heir. But we explain “ a debt contracted under the influence of lust,” an obligation similar to a debt so incurred; the similarity consists in the contract of payment. Consequently that only, which was promised for the sake of enjoying an adulteress, constitutes an obligation incurred under the influence of lust. Accordingly *SU' LAPĀ'NI* has delivered the following comment on a text of *YĀ'JNYAWALCYA*.

CCV.

*YĀ'JNYAWALCYA*: — A SON need not pay in this world money due by his father for spirituous liquors, for lustful pleasures, for losses at play; nor what remains unpaid of a fine or toll; nor any thing idly promised.

DEBTS of his father incurred on account of spirituous liquors, or for the enjoyment of another's wife, or undertaken on account of gaming, for a fine, or for duties at wharfs and the like, a son need not pay. “ Father ” is here illustrative, suggesting also his mother.

*SU' LAPĀ'NI*.

HERE the expression, “ incurred for the enjoyment of another's wife,” excludes a debt contracted from a moneylender; else the author would have said, money borrowed for the sake of obtaining another's wife.

THE author of the *Mitācśbarā* has this gloss: a debt incurred by a drinker of spirituous liquors, or under the influence of lust for the sake of enjoying a woman, or caused by losses at play, what remains due of a fine or toll,



toll, and money idly promised, that is, promised to impostors, bards, or wrestlers, (for it is declared, " Fruitless is a present given to an impostor, a bard, a wrestler, a quack, a flatterer, a knave, a fortuneteller, a spy, or a robber.") All such debts incurred by the father, his son, or other heir, need not pay to the vintner and the rest.

It appears from the expression, " to the vintner and the rest," that the price of spirituous liquors and the like, due by the father, need not be paid by the son to the vintner and the rest. But in fact the interpretation suggested in the *Retnâcara*, that even a debt contracted for such purposes need not be paid by the son, should be admitted; for the phrase, which occurs in the text of VYĀSA, " nor any debt for a cause repugnant to good morals," shows, that such debts need not be discharged by the son. But MĪSRA has said nothing expressly on this subject.

YET a debt contracted by a father, for the payment of a fine to the king, ought to be discharged by his son; for the last term, in the following text, is expounded dominion over the senses and a fine imposed by the king; and because a fine has a moral purpose since it expiates guilt.

#### CCVI.

MENU:— BY open confession, by repentance, by devotion, and by reading the scripture, a sinner may be released from his guilt; or by almsgiving, by dominion over the senses, or by a fine to the king (for the word *dama* admits both senses).

IF a fine be an atonement, even the balance of a fine ought necessarily to be paid by a son; why have sages ordained, in contradiction to the reason of the law, that it shall not be paid? The objection is ill founded; for the fine is cancelled by becoming a religious anchorite on the approach of death, and by other means. All authors have directed penance, not the payment of amercements, to expiate guilt, which is inferred from an actual disease to have been contracted in a former existence. Accordingly the fourth measure of the text cited (CCVI) is in some copies read, " or by alms-giving



giving in case of his inability *to perform the other acts of religion.*" It is, however, reasonable, that the balance of a fine should be paid by the son, if his father be absent ; but, since the son is not his own master, the king cannot exact it by forcible means or the like. This is a demonstrated inference.

In general it is settled, that a debt contracted by a father shall be paid by the son with interest, or, on failure of him, by the grandson without interest. But all agree, that only such debts, as have not been excepted by any sage, need be paid. Therefore a debt contracted for an immoral purpose, and money promised for such a purpose, or idly promised, or promised to the king or other person for the liquidation of a fine or the like, and so forth, need not be paid. Such is the full meaning of the law. Other debts must be paid by the successor to the estate, and the rest, in order, on failure of persons first liable. But MISRA holds, that they shall be discharged without interest ; he assigns as a reason, because it has not been declared in this case, as in that of a son, that interest shall be paid. CHANDĒSWARA, SŪ LAPĀNI and the rest have not expressly noticed this point. To that *inference* it may be *therefore* objected, that every sage, who ordains the payment of debts by a grandson, declares, that they shall be discharged without interest ; but some sages have directed, that a debt shall be paid with interest by the son *of the debtor* ; others have not noticed the question of interest : consequently, as no legislator has ordained payment with interest by successors to the estate, so none have ordained payment without interest ; the rule being therefore general, what then should inhibit payment with interest. This subject has been sufficiently discussed.

#### CCVII.

YĀJNYAWALCYA :—NEITHER shall a wife or mother *be in general compelled to pay* a debt contracted by her husband or son, nor a father *to pay* a debt contracted by his son, unless it were for the behoof of the family ; nor a husband *to pay* a debt contracted by his wife.

#### CCVIII.

VISHNU :—NEITHER shall a wife or mother, *be in general compelled*



*pelled to pay the debt of her husband or son, nor the husband or son to pay the debt of his wife or mother.*

CCIX.

NĀREDA:—A DEBT, contracted by the wife, shall by no means bind the husband, unless it were *for necessities* at a time of great distress: a man is indispensably bound to support his family.

2. A WIFE or mother shall not *in general* pay the debt of her husband or son.

THIS last hemistich is cited on the authority of MISRA.

UNLESS it were contracted for the support of the family at a time of great distress, a debt incurred by a wife shall not bind her husband: that is, it need not be paid by her husband.

The *Retnācara*.

BOTH these texts of VISHNU and the other *legislator* relate to a wife of unequal class: but a wife of equal class must pay a debt contracted by them even though experiencing no distress. Wives of unequal class are prohibited in the *Cali-age*; a text concerning the wife of equal class will be cited under the title of inheritance.

BHAVADEVĀ.

THIS is liable to objection. Why is the general term “wife” taken in a limited sense? Since it is a rule, that “what might be supposed is excepted,” what might be proposed generally in respect of any person or thing, is alone specially excepted as relating to that person or thing. For instance; it being stated generally that a father’s debt shall be discharged by his son, an exception is made, that a debt, contracted on account of gaming, shall not be paid. But in this case there is no such supposition. Why then is an exception propounded? It is answered, that sages have excepted these cases, apprehending the hasty supposition, that payment might be required because these persons



are not unrelated to the debtor, and are naturally competent to take his assets. For example; the text above cited (CLXVII 2) is illustrative of a general sense and comprehends great grandsons, daughter's sons and the rest. Consequently a debt shall not in general be paid by any other than a son or a son's son; yet it must be discharged by heirs of every description, if they have received assets. YĀJNYAWALCYA propounds an exception.

CCX.

YĀJNYAWALCYA:—A DEBT, acknowledged by *her husband*, or contracted by her jointly with her husband or son, or contracted by the woman herself, must be paid by a wife or mother; no other debts shall a woman be compelled to pay.

“ACKNOWLEDGED;” fully acknowledged.

The *Dīpālicā*.

It consequently signifies a debt admitted by her husband at the point of death.

“WITH her husband or son:” the particle is connective, and includes her son also: hence a debt, contracted jointly with her husband or son, must be paid by a wife or mother. For instance; her husband and son being incompetent to the management of affairs, and the woman herself being very active, she contracts a debt jointly with them: such a debt is meant. Or, the husband and son being incompetent, or being unable to act by reason of other occupations, she uses their names, or contracts debts in her own name from a moneylender: in either of these cases, the debt is contracted by the woman herself.

CCXI.

CĀTYĀYANA:—A DEBT contracted jointly with her husband or son, or singly by the woman herself, shall be paid by a wife or mother: in such, and in no other cases, shall the debts contracted by them be paid by her.

CCXII.



CCXII.

NĀREDA:—If a wife be thus addressed by her lord at the point of death, *or just before a long journey*, “such a debt must be paid by thee,” she must pay it, however unwilling, if assets were left in her hands.

“DEBTS contracted by them;” debts contracted by her husband and son.

The *Retnācara*.

If the assets of the husband have been received by his wife, she must pay the debt, “however unwilling;” that is, even though she do not promise to pay it. But if the wife, so instructed by her husband at the point of death, in these words, “my debt must be paid by thee,” do promise to discharge it, she must then pay it even though assets were not left in her hands. Such is MISRA’s opinion; and he expressly declares it: ‘a debt, acknowledged by her husband, must be paid by a wife; and so must a debt be paid by a childless widow, who has accepted the care of the assets, even though she have not accepted the burden of the debts: for she is successor to the estate.’ It must be therefore understood, that the debts of her husband must be discharged by the widow, who has accepted the care of the assets, under the text of YĀJNYAWALKYA (CLXXI).

THIS appears also to be the opinion of CHANDEŚWARA; *for he says* in the *Retnācara*, “at the point of death” is illustrative of a general meaning. It therefore comprehends also one, who intends a journey to another country, or retirement in another order. But even an instruction incidentally addressed to the wife, by her husband, though not diseased or the like, requiring her to pay this debt, must be considered as given with a view to *the probability of decease*. This and other points must be considered.

CCXIII.

NĀREDA:—A CHILDLESS widow must pay the debt of her sister enjoining payment; or whoever receives the assets left by that *sister*, must pay her debts.



ON the death of one of two sisters left as coparceners in the house of their father who had no male issue, the debt of that sister must be discharged by the surviving sister enjoined to pay it. Such is the sense of the first hemistich. Or any other, who takes the succession, must pay that debt.

*The Retnācara.*

VRĪHASPATI also directs, that a father *should* pay a debt contracted by his son.

#### CCXIV.

VRĪHASAPTI:—A DEBT, contracted by a son, shall be paid by the father, if he promised payment; or he may pay it from affection to his son; but, unless he promise, he cannot be compelled.

“ IF he promised payment,” or *authorized the contracting of the debt*: for instance, if the father told the creditor “ lend money to my son;” or if he told his son “ borrow money to maintain your own grandmother.”

“ FROM affection to his son:” having contracted a debt unauthorized by his father, the son dies; if his father, reflecting, “ should the debt remain unpaid, my son will go to a region of horror,” be disposed to discharge the debt through affection to his son, he may pay it. But otherwise he need not pay it: consequently a debt contracted by a son, need not be paid by his father, unless spontaneously, or in consequence of a promise.

#### CCXV.

CA'TYA'YANA:—By the general rule of law, a father need not pay the debt of his son; but he must pay it, if, either at the time of the loan, or afterwards, he promised payment.

“ PROMISED” here signifies stipulated at the time of receiving the loan; but promised after receiving the loan is conveyed by the expression “ subsequently agreed to,” or promised afterwards. Son is here taken illustratively.

*The Retnācara.*



THESE terms consequently fall within the sense of the expression used in text of VRĪHASPATI, and the texts therefore coincide. “ Illustratively ;” even a debt contracted by a wife or the rest, must be paid by her husband and the rest, if he gave previous or subsequent assent, and the wife or other debtor be unable to discharge it or die. Here the word “ son” being considered as illustrative of a general sense, it may comprehend presumptive heirs of the same person, who live together and partake of the same food.

IT is reasonable, that the debt of a wife should in some cases be paid by her husband.

CCXVI.

YĀJÑYAWALKYA:—IF the wife of a herdsman, a vintner, a dancer, a washerman, or a hunter contract a debt, the husband shall pay it; because his livelihood chiefly depends on the labour of such a wife.

CCXVII.

VRĪHASPATI:—THE husband, being a vintner, a hunter or fowler, a washer, a herdsman, a shepherd, or the like, shall pay the debt of his wife : it was contracted in the concerns of the husband.

THESE husbands shall be compelled to pay the debts of their wives. “ Because” should be here supplied; and the construction is, because those debts were contracted by them in the concerns of their husbands. Consequently a debt may be contracted by a wife in the concerns of her husband, if they require such a debt.

CCXVIII.

NAĀREDA:—EXCEPT the wife of a washer, hunter, herdsman, or vintner; for the livelihood of such a husband, and the support of his family, depend on her.

THIS must be connected for interpretation with the text above cited



(CCIX 1), in this manner; a debt contracted by a wife, excepting the wife of a washer &c. shall not be paid by her husband. The reason is subjoined; and here again "because" must be supplied: or the second particle has the causal sense.

HERE "washer" and the rest are mentioned indeterminately. In fact, whatever be his class, if the husband's livelihood depend chiefly on the labour of his wife, he must discharge a debt contracted by her, whether he be a priest or a washer: but he, whose livelihood does not depend on his wife, whether he be a washer or a priest, shall not pay his wife's debt. This is noticed by MISRA: *he says*, 'in other cases also, wherever the wife has the chief management, there is no restriction of class; the wife alone conducts all affairs, the husband is absolutely ignorant of every transaction.' Accordingly it is observed, that, in the province of *Cāmarūpa*, almost every civil transaction is now conducted by women.

BUT this is merely a vague description; for a debt contracted by the wife of a *Brāhmana* and so forth, for the support of the family, must also be paid by the chief of that family. From the reason assigned, "because his livelihood chiefly depends on the labour of such a wife," it appears, that any other persons, of whom the livelihood depends on the labour of their wives, must pay the debt contracted by those wives. This is admitted in the *Mitācsharā*. CHANDĒSWARA also makes the same observation; 'the circumstance of his livelihood depending on the labour of his wife is particularly intended; not any restriction of class.'

HERE it should be remarked, that they are only mentioned approximately; for, the husbands being constantly occupied in washing clothes, attending cattle and the like, and therefore unable to provide necessaries for consumption, and such being the practice of certain *other* persons, the providing of necessaries, like *other* household business, is conducted by their wives alone. It is the same also in respect of husbandmen and the rest. However, a debt contracted by any married woman, who presides *over her husband's household*, for the support of her own brother's family, need not be paid by the husband, any more than the debt of a father contracted under the influ-



ence of lust ; but other debts, contracted by his wife, must be paid by the husband.

CCXIX.

CA'TYA'YANA :—A DEBT, which is contracted by a wife or mother for the behoof of the family, when her husband or son is gone to a foreign country, after authorizing *the loan*, must be paid by the husband or son.

IF a husband or son, intending a journey to a foreign country, and being asked by his wife or mother for food and raiment, tell her, “ contract debts ;” the debt contracted by her must be paid by him when he returns to his own home. “ After authorizing the loan ” is an approximate expression ; for, even though he did not authorize it, the reasoning would be the same.

The *Retnâcara*.

THE meaning is, if he go abroad without making provision for her food, vesture and the like. “ When he is gone to a foreign country,” is also illustrative of a general sense ; the same rule should be admitted, even though he remain at home. As is mentioned in the *Retnâcara* ; ‘ if he remain at home, or go abroad, without assigning any subsistence to his wife or mother.’ This again is merely illustrative ; hence such a debt, even though contracted by a minor son or daughter, must be discharged.

HERE an observation may be made : a debt, contracted by a mother for religious purposes and the like, must be discharged by her son. Suppose a man, whose son is an infant, and whose wife has contracted a debt jointly with her husband, but he dies, and his son inherits his property ; in that case by whom should the debt be paid ? By the son alone, for he is under a double obligation to discharge the debt ; *under a civil obligation*, because he holds assets ; *under a moral obligation*, because he is son of the deceased. But, if the debtor leave no assets, what should follow ? It is replied, the son nevertheless ought to pay the debt ; for redemption from debt is stated as the benefit arising from male offspring alone, since the



text of NĀREDA (CLXXXVIII) describes the wish for male offspring as originating in the wish to be liberated from debt : sensual delights and male offspring are described as the benefit accruing from a wife, by a text of the *Cālicā purāna*, “ a wife affords delight and male offspring ;” consequently, if there be a son produced by her, why should the wife, who has afforded other benefit, discharge the debt ? It is accordingly remarked in the *Mitāc-śharā*, that ‘ a debt, contracted by a wife jointly with her husband, must, on failure of the husband, be paid by the wife, if she have no male issue.’

THUS the divine CĀLIDĀSA says in the *Raghubarāṣa*, “ Bliss in another world, and purity in this, spring from devotion and alms ; but progeny of a pure race contributes to prosperity in the other world as well as in this.” And again, in the same work ; “ thinking oblations will be hardly obtained after me, *the manes of my ancestors taste the water, which I regularly offer, warmed by their sighs.*” \* Of those passages the meaning is this ; in another world, prosperity or auspicious fortune, that is, the bliss of heaven, is attained ; in this world, auspicious fortune, that is, the discharge of debts, is obtained : meaning debts to the deities, to progenitors, to holy sages, and to men. The second verse is a speech of a mighty king named DILĪPA, who was childless. It has this meaning ; water has been presented in the form of oblations to ancestors by me DILĪPA ; but my ancestors taste the water warmed by their sighs : he assigns the cause of their sighs ; after me DILĪPA it will be difficult to obtain *oblations of water* : reflecting, “ by whom will it be presented, since he has no son,” they emit warm sighs. Therefore, wanting progeny, ancestors also sigh with sorrow. It is hereby indicated, that *the birth of a son relieves ancestors from this misery.*

IF there be both a great grandson who has succeeded to the estate, and a widow, what should be ruled ? There is no difficulty in that case, because whoever takes the estate of the deceased, must also maintain those whom the deceased was bound to support. Since food and raiment must necessarily be furnished to the widow ; from parity of reasoning, money sufficient to discharge the debts of her husband, which are payable by her, must also

\* The verses are only quoted in part ; I insert the translation at large.



be supplied. But, if the debtor leave no affets, his great grandson does not succeed to any estate; the widow, however, has several property, such as jewels and the like; the debt should in that case be discharged by her out of that property, for sages have declared her liable to the payment of debts. This and other points may be reasoned by the wife. VISHNU also declares, that debts must be paid by those, who take the affets.

CCXX.

VISHNU: — HE, who takes the affets of a man leaving no male issue, must pay the sum due by him; and so must he, who has the care of the widow left by one who had no affets.

“ SUM” (*dhana*) here signifies debt; the same term in the subsequent phrase, “ who had no affets” (*adhabana*), signifies wealth. The *Retnācara*.

Two sons have succeeded to the estate on the death of the father; in his life time the father had commanded one son to pay a certain debt; what is the rule of decision in that case? Although both be equally successors and sons of the deceased, that son only, who received the injunction, must pay the debt; for he is bound to fulfil his father's commands. But if the other son, considering it as a moral duty, spontaneously give his proportionate share, it should be accepted; else, how could the moral obligations of that other son be fulfilled? For he, who received the injunction, should fulfil his father's commands without distressing the second son. Yet, if the second son delude his brother by this declaration, “ I am my father's son as well as he, I therefore will pay my proportionate share of the debt,” and do not pay *his share* of the debt to the creditor, it must be fully discharged by him who received the command; for his father, dreading immoral consequences, gave the order through apprehension of such deceit or the like. If a father, in such a case, give land or similar property to any one son with such an instruction, surely the debt must be discharged by him alone; and he shall take the whole property given by his father *on this consideration*, and his proportionate share of other property left by his father. The subject has been further discussed already.



ON failure of persons holding assets, he, who has the care of the wife, must pay the debt, under the rule of VISHNU (CCXX) and text of YĀJNYAWALKYA (CLXXI). NĀREDA declares it with a particular explanation.

### CCXXI.

NĀREDA :—HE, who possesses the last of disloyal wives, or the first of twice married women, must pay the debt contracted by her husband.

THE sense is this; of four sorts of women wilfully libidinous, or disloyal, her, who is last or fourth in the enumeration; and of three twice married women, her, who is first described; he, who takes *either of* these two women, shall pay the debt contracted by the husband; and not the debt contracted by the husband of any other woman. CHANDĒSWARA.

CONSEQUENTLY he, who takes a twice married woman of the second, or third description, or a disloyal wife of the first, second, or third description, shall not pay the debt contracted by her husband. The *same* legislator propounds the distinctions of twice married women and disloyal wives (Book IV, v. CLVIII.)

IF a man wed a girl, whose marriage has been already celebrated but not consummated, he must pay the debt of her first husband, because he has taken in marriage a girl already espoused by another.

THAT girl, who is tacitly or expressly contracted to one man by her parents, considering the laws of the district, or reflecting, “ the laws of our country are not violated by giving the damsel to that man though ugly; ” ( “ laws ” are in the plural number with a comprehensive sense, including the laws of families and laws in general; ) if such a girl contract an affection for another man, handsome or rich, *and wilfully accede to him*, she is considered as the second twice married woman. The text (Book IV, v. CLVIII 3) is also read *utpannasābesā* instead of *utpannasabesā*; this reading the author of the *Mitācsharā* explains, “ becoming disloyal.”



IF the same kinsmen, tacitly or expressly affiancing a damsel to one man, but deluded by beauty or the like, give her in marriage to another, she is considered as the third twice married woman. The distinction between the second and third arises from this difference, *that in one instance the second marriage is the act of her kinsmen, and in the other it is not the act of her kinsmen.* In these cases, since the first husband had not *actually* received the damsel, the debt contracted by the first husband shall not be paid by her second lord. By "parents" and "kinsmen" must be here understood her father, paternal grandfather, or other persons, who have a right to dispose of her in marriage.

WHETHER she have borne children or be childless (intimating generally one, whose marriage has been consummated), a woman, who clings to another man during her husband's life, through lust (or avarice, or any irregular appetite), is the first disloyal wife.

HER husband being living, she, who deserts him, and gives herself to another man, saying "I am thine," but afterwards returns to her first husband, again saying "I am thine," is the second. She is distinguished from the fourth, because, in respect even of her wedded husband, she is a woman previously enjoyed by another.

AFTER the death of her husband, a woman, living in his family, whether unguarded or guarded, who receives the caresses of another, through carnal desire, is the third disloyal wife. In fact she is similar to the first, but distinguished by the circumstance of her husband's decease, whereas the husband of the first was living. "Leaves his brother or other kinsmen" (Book IV, v. CLVIII 7); that implies, that she so acted, though opposed by her husband's brother and the rest: it denotes her sinning in secret.

OR the phrase, "leaves his brother or other kinsmen," may intend the case of troth verbally plighted; and the term "brother or kinsman" may comprehend every *śapinda* of equal class. Thus, if the affianced husband of a girl, who was tacitly or verbally given in marriage, die, and she re-

ceive



ceive the embraces of a stranger, or a person not related within the degree of a *sapinda*, she is considered as the third disloyal wife; not as a twice married woman. This may be understood from the ambiguous terms of the text. But if she receive the embraces of a man of equal class on failure of *sapindas*, she is a twice married woman of the second description. For in the definition of the third twice married woman (Book IV, v. CLVIII 4) the terms "*sapinda* of equal class" occur. Thus some expound the texts.

ON this we remark, that, after the death of her husband, if a woman, previously authorized by him, receive the embraces of his brother for the sake of male offspring, there is no offence: hence it is specified, "through carnal desire," and, "who leaves his brother or kinsman." If she pass by his brother or kinsman, and receive the embraces of another man of equal class, in conformity to the directions of her husband, there is no offence: therefore does the sage specify, "through carnal desire." But, if she receive the caresses of her husband's brother or kinsman, being impelled by lust or the like, *and not solely guided by the duty of raising up offspring*, still there is no offence: this is also intimated by the text, "who leaves his brother or kinsman." Such a practice actually subsists among some people in particular districts. Yet, in fact, the procreation of a son on the wife of a kinsman is forbidden in the *Cali* age.

[“THE procreation of a son by the brother of a *deceased* husband must in the *Cali* age be avoided.”]\*

IN this text also, "carnal desire" is an instance denoting likewise avarice and other irregular appetites.

“SHE, who, having received *injunctions*” (Book IV, v. CLVIII 8); who has been told by her kinsmen, receive the embraces of such a man; if she take as a husband any other man than him whom her kinsmen assigned, is the fourth disloyal wife: and so is one purchased for money, or impelled by hunger or thirst. Consequently the several phrases, “having received injunc-

\* The text, here partially quoted, is nowhere cited at large. Similar texts are cited in the fifth book. See likewise Book IV, v. CLVII, and a general note to the translation of *MENU* (V 3).





tions" &c. may be taken either conjointly or separately. This sense is denoted: a woman, having lost her husband, but desirous of wedlock, gives herself to some man; she is the fourth disloyal wife: and if a woman, whose husband is living, desert him and cling to another, but do not return to her *first* husband, she also may be considered as a disloyal wife of the fourth description. This text not specifying, "after her husband's decease," and the preceding text expressing (Book IV, v. CLVIII 6) "but returns to the house of her lord," there is no confusion.

SINCE he enjoys with a previous title this woman, who is another's wife, he must pay the debts contracted by her husband: and this must be considered as exclusive of an unmarried harlot.

## CCXXII.

CATYA'YANA:—A DEBT, which has been contracted by indigent and childless vintners and the rest, must be paid by him, who has the care of their wives.

UNDER the term "and the rest" are comprehended *all* persons whose livelihood depends on their wives.

MISRA.

"WIVES" being here mentioned in the plural number, disloyal wives of every description are suggested. Consequently he, who possesses the wife of a deceased vintner or the like, assimilated to property because she is able to support the family, must pay the debt of her husband. This is ordained by the text, and should not be controverted. Accordingly the following text of NĀREDA has a suitable import; otherwise it would be a needless repetition of the preceding text (CCXXI).

## CCXXIII.

NĀREDA:—HE, who approaches the widow of an indigent man leaving no male issue, must pay the debt of her husband; she is considered as his property.

AND this seems to have been the opinion of CHANDESWARA. Accordingly



he says, " this text of NĀREDA also has the same import with the text of CA'TYĀYANA' (CCXXII). That again is a proper construction ; for in the texts of CA'TYĀYANA (CLXXIII 2) of NĀREDA (CLXXII) and of VRĪHAS-PATI (CLXXIV) the expression, " he, who takes the widow" (*śrībhāri*), exhibits the verb *brī* in the sense of possession ; and in the text of YĀ'JNYAWAL-KYA (CLXXI) and rule of VIŚHNU (CCXX) the similar expression (*śrīgrā-bhī*) exhibits the verb *grāh* in the sense of caption or occupancy : but here (CCXXII and CCXXIII) the verbs *bhuj* and *in*, preceded by the inseparable particle *upa* (in the words *upabhōctā*, and *upaiti*) signify enjoyment and approach. The preceding text of NĀREDA (CCXXI) does not propound the obligation on him, who takes the widow, to pay the debt of her husband ; but, the obligation on him to pay the debt, on failure of heirs and sons, having been already stated (CLXXII), it propounds a special rule. There is consequently no objection to take the radical *as'* (of the word *samas'nuté*) in the sense of enjoyment or possession (CCXXI). Accordingly NĀREDA adds, " she is considered as his property" (CCXXIII) ; he benefits by the wife of the deceased, through the wealth brought with her. Or the relative, used adverbially in that phrase, denotes the woman. But he, who enjoys the widow, is only liable on failure of a guardian of the widow, and on failure of sons and grandsons not competent to the management of affairs. However, it is held in the *Ret-nācara* and other works, that this rule of decision concerns only those women on whose labour their husbands depend chiefly for their livelihood. The same opinion is almost expressly delivered by the author of the *Mitācsharā*. In the last case and in this, the difference between him, who takes the widow or becomes her guardian, and him, who enjoys the widow or becomes her paramour, is evidently the same as between a man who has the care of another's land, and one who has the enjoyment of it.

BUT some hold, that one text (CCXXIII) propounds generally the payment of debts by him who takes the widow ; the other text (CCXXI) ordains specially the payment of debts by him who takes the widow under particular circumstances: there is consequently no vain repetition. CA'TYĀYANA directs payment by him, who has taken the widow, if there be a son living but incompetent to the conduct of affairs (CLXXIV 2) ; in another text (CCXXII) he directs, that the debt of one, who had no male issue, or whose son



son is deceased, shall be paid by him, who has the care of the widow : there is consequently no *vain* repetition. It follows, that he, who enjoys a disloyal wife of another description, need not pay her husband's debt.

THAT is liable to objection ; for the preceding text of NA'REDA (CLXXII) would contain a needless repetition of the text last cited (CCXXIII). That point should be examined. This description of women is greatly blamed by legislators. That the wives of *Bráhmaṇas*, and other virtuous women, do not so act, may be learnt in the discussion of the duties of man and wife.

WHEN a son competent *to the management of affairs* is living, and there is also a guardian of the widow, the debt must *in general* be paid by the son alone, as has been already mentioned. From this rule CA'TYA'YANA propounds a particular exception.

#### CCXXIV.

CA'TYA'YANA :—SHOULD a widow, who has several property, take the protection of another man without the assent of her son, her property may be seized by that son, if there be no daughters :

2. He may seize it to discharge debts, but never for his own gratification, since he cannot compel his parents to pay any thing for an improper cause.
3. OF that woman, who has male issue, but deserts her son though opulent, MENU declares, that her son may take the peculiar property and discharge therewith his father's debts.

“ WITHOUT the assent of her son ;” or against his consent. “ Who has several property ;” who has considerable female property. “ If there be no daughters ;” on failure of daughters.

The *Retnācāra*.

THE



THE meaning is this ; if a woman, possessing several property, take the protection of another man against the consent of her son, that son may seize her property ; but he can only do so when he is unable to discharge debts out of his own property, and not for his own gratification, since he cannot compel his parents to pay any thing for an improper cause ; that is, he cannot possess himself of the property of his father or of his mother for the accomplishment of an unfit purpose. Here the discharge of debts is merely an instance of indispensable duties. The debts may be his own or his father's. But he can only do so, if there be no daughter ; for, should there be daughters, they are entitled to their mother's several property : and this supposes female property, such as presents given at the bridal procession, and on other occasions : the distinctions of *such property* will be noticed in the chapter on the property of women, under the title of inheritance. It may be here noticed, that her recourse to another man must be considered as equivalent to the natural decease of the mother. But, at the option of the son, her title to several property may depart or subsist, under the authority of the text ( Book V, v. CCCC V 1 and 2 ).

If a woman, deserting her son though capable of *protecting her*, take her several property and recur to another man without the consent of her son, that son, seizing even her several property, may discharge debts therewith : such is the sense of the third verse ( CCXXIV 3 ).

By the expression " though opulent " it is shown, that, if she desert an indigent son, assuredly that son may seize her several property.

The *Retnācara*.

" WHO has male issue " describes the woman. From the particle in the phrase " seizing even her several property," it follows, that, if any part of his patrimony have been taken, assuredly he may seize that. The debt to be paid should be the debt of his father ; for the text specifies " his father's debts". The commentator says, " assuredly that son may seize her several property ;" here " for the payment of debts " should be subjoined : and this is evident from the text. The term translated " opulent," but literally signifying " capable," here imports possessing wealth ; " incapable " signifies moneyless.



moneyless. The difference is this; if she deserted an opulent son, he can only seize her several property for the discharge of his father's debts; but, if she abandon an indigent son, he may seize it for payment even of his own debts. But, if the woman have no several property, the son alone must discharge the debt. This NĀREDA declares.

CCXXV.

NĀREDA:—BUT, if a woman, who has male issue, *but no several property*, desert her son and recur to another man, her son alone must pay the whole debt of her *deceased* lord.

If she desert an opulent *or capable* son, and take the protection of another man, without *carrying* any former property, her son alone must pay the debt contracted by her *deceased* lord. The *Retnācara*.

CONSEQUENTLY the construction is, her son is liable for, and must pay, the debt of her lord: and that, provided the son be competent *to the conduct of affairs*; else he, who takes the widow, would be liable for the payment of debts: hence the commentator adds “capable *or opulent*.” It has been declared (CLXXII), that a son, not competent *to the management of affairs*, must discharge the debt on failure of a guardian of the widow; by this text it is declared, that a son competent *to conduct affairs* must discharge the debt, although a man have taken the widow: consequently there is no vain repetition. The debtor being dead, his son competent *to manage affairs* must pay the father's debt out of the several property of his adulterous mother, or out of his own property, whichever may be practicable: this is shown by what has preceded.

CCXXVI.

NĀREDA:—BUT if a woman take the protection of another man, carrying her riches and her offspring, he must pay the debt of her husband, or abandon such a woman.

“CARRYING her riches;” possessing considerable wealth. “Her husband;”



band;" her wedded lord. Or, to avoid the payment of the debt, he must abandon such a woman, who brings her offspring and her wealth.

The *Retnâcara*.

CCXXVII.

CĀTYĀYANA:—IF a woman, having an infant son and much wealth, seek another protector, he, whose protection is taken, must pay the debt of *her husband*: this law is declared in respect of women, who have infant sons.

HERE the term employed (*bhartri*) signifies one who maintains her, *not one who marries her*. "Seek," or recur to, 'for support:' the texts should be so supplied. Consequently the guardian, to whom the mother of an infant son, but possessing much wealth, recurs for the support of her son and herself, must, if he accept the trust, pay the debt of her husband out of her property; or, paying it out of his own property, he shall afterwards obtain reimbursement. Such is the sense of the text: and he must also maintain both the mother and son. There is no vain repetition of the preceding text (CLXXIII). And in this case, the guardian does not take the assets; for the woman alone has the care of the goods. Thus we explain the law.

WHEN the debtor is living, but is mad, has been long absent in a foreign country, is an idiot or the like; in a word, is incapable of discharging debts; in that case, his debt shall be paid by his son alone, as has been already mentioned: but, if he have no offspring, what should be ruled? On this point the same legislator propounds a law.

CCXXVIII.

CĀTYĀYANA:—THE debts of men long absent in a foreign country, of idiots, madmen, and the like, who have no male kindred, and of religious anchorites, must be paid, even during their lives, *but without interest*, by such as have the care of the *debtor's* wife and goods.

By such as have taken the wife and the goods appertaining to a man long  
absent



absent in a foreign country, and so forth: and this must be understood, according to circumstances, as intending also outcasts and the like.

MANY sages have declared generally, that the debt must be discharged by him, who takes the wife of the debtor; a special rule is here propounded. A man has two wives; one, taking her offspring and her wealth, gives herself to another man saying, "I am thine;" and the other, who possesses no wealth, takes the protection of a guardian; what is the rule of decision in this case? It is answered, since he, who takes the wife with effects, in fact holds affets, the debt must be discharged by him; but, if both be in the same situation, it must be paid in equal proportions by both. This is the import of the former text (CCXXVI). But, if the receipt of effects were previously unknown, and the creditor exacted immediate payment from him, who had the care of his debtor's wife, after which the receipt of effects is discovered, then indeed the payment made by the guardian of the wife is not legal, because it was exacted from a person not justly liable; he may therefore recover his money from the creditor; and the creditor shall obtain his due from him alone, who holds affets: the holder of affets may be compelled to reimburse the guardian of the wife. Such is the proper mode of adjustment in forensick practice.

A CASE may be here stated. A certain dishonest surety for payment asked a loan of a moneylender, in the name of a certain borrower; and the lender, fixing stipulated interest at the rate of two *pañās*, sent the loan to the borrower through the hands of the surety. Bringing the sum borrowed, the surety told the borrower, "he will not lend the money without stipulated interest at the rate of four *pañās*." Urged by distress, the borrower agreed to that interest and accepted the loan. At the time of payment, the debtor delivered to the surety the sum due on a computation of interest at the rate of four *pañās*; but the surety paid the creditor at the rate of two *pañās*. After a few days the whole circumstances were discovered. The creditor therefore demands the greater interest from the surety; the debtor also claims the excess from the surety; and the surety refuses to pay it to either of them. What should be the rule of decision in this case? The answer is, the creditor can have no right to receive greater interest than such





as he stipulated when he made the loan ; the surety is not entitled to obtain interest on another's money ; it is therefore reasonable, that the debtor should recover the sum erroneously paid.

It should not be asked objectively, why should not the debtor pay the interest stipulated by him, for the sake of preserving uprightness *in his dealings* ? Deceived by the surety's words, the debtor made the promise before the surety, not before the creditor. That promise only, which was made by the surety, as his representative, in the presence of the creditor, is efficient ; not the promise originating in error caused by the surety's fallacy. Again ; the creditor may have accepted less interest through tenderness excited by the appearance of distress in the debtor ; in that case, the remainder shall benefit the debtor alone, for it was in a manner relinquished to him. Yet, if the debtor voluntarily pay it, the other shall receive it by his voluntary act. But, when an intermediate person himself borrows money and lends it to the *ultimate* debtor, he is not a surety, but debtor to one and creditor of another : in such a case therefore, he is entitled to the interest at the rate of four *pañas*.

If a debtor had no son born to him, and leave no widow, nor affets, by whom shall his debt be paid ? By no one. But, if the debtor gave a pledge on contracting the debt, and his great grandson be living, the debt should be paid by that great grandson.

#### CCXXIX.

YĀJNYAWALCYA :—A DEBT, secured merely by a written contract, shall be discharged, *from a moral and religious obligation*, only by three persons, *the debtor, his son, and his son's son* ; but a pledge shall be enjoyed until actual payment of the debt *by any heir in any degree*. \*

BUT if the great grandson do not wish to redeem the pledge, those, who would be entitled to inherit on failure of great grandsons, may, in the order of succession pay the debt and take the mortgaged property. If no

\* Already cited at v. XXXVIII 2, and partially at v. CXI.



one chuse to redeem it, the pledgee may continue to enjoy it, after acquainting the king; the sum cannot be forcibly exacted from the great grandson or remoter heir, because, not having yet taken the assets, he is not liable for the debt.

THIS doubt here occurs : if the debtor contracted the debt giving a pledge for custody only, and he, his son and his son's son die, but a great grandson survive; in that case the debt need not be paid by the great grandson; for he does not enjoy the mortgaged property, and the pledgee is permitted to enjoy property pledged, so long as the debt shall remain unpaid (CCXXIX) : but the great grandson alone can take the pledge, because it is the chattel of his great grandfather. The apparent difficulty may be thus reconciled : “ but property pledged shall be enjoyed ” is an expression merely illustrative of a general sense ; in the case supposed the payment of the debt is alone requisite. Or the word pledge may there signify a pledge given in lieu of interest as well as a pledge not to be used ; and *the word “ enjoy ”* suggests occupancy as well as fruition : hence there is no difficulty. Else it would be inconsistent with reason, that, after advancing his own property and safely keeping the pledge for a long time, the creditor should *be obliged* to restore it to the great grandson of his debtor without receiving his due. Since the great grandson or remoter heir holds assets when he has received the pledge, he is bound to pay the debt.

#### CCXXX.

VRĪHASPATI :—HE, who, having received a sum lent or the like, does not repay it to the owner, will be born *hereafter* in his creditor's house, a slave, a servant, a woman, or a quadruped.

THE term here employed signifies a loan. “ Or the like ” comprehends deposits and so forth.

The *Retnācara*.

“ To the owner ; ” to the former master of the sum, that is to the creditor and so forth. Therefore a debt must necessarily be paid by a son or



other descendant, left his father or ancestor become a slave ; otherwise hell awaits him, because he has not followed the conduct prescribed. Thus may the law be concisely stated.

WHEN the creditor is dead ; or has become a religious anchoret or the like, the debtor should pay the sum to his son or other heir ; on failure of the nearest, to the remoter heir successively, down to the learned priest. But, if there be no heir, nor any learned priest in that country, or if he refuse the payment tendered, NĀREDA propounds the rule to be observed in that case.

#### CCXXXI.

NĀREDA : — If a creditor of the priestly class die leaving issue, *the king shall* cause the debt to be paid *to them* ; if he leave no issue, to his near kinsman ; if he leave none, who are near, to those who are distant, *paternal or maternal* ;

2. If he leave no heirs near or distant, *nor persons connected by sacred studies*, the king shall bestow it on worthy priests ; but if none such are present, let him cast it into the waters : *the debts of other classes, in similar circumstances, he may seize for himself.*

WHAT is due to a priest, whether it be a gratuity or similar claim, or the like, must, on failure of him, be paid to his son or other descendant, in the regular order of succession. That is intimated by the phrase “ leaving issue.” On failure of issue, to his near kinsmen ; on failure of them, to distant kinsmen, allied to himself, to his father, or to his mother : this will be explained under the title of inheritance. On failure of these, it should be given to learned priests ; or on failure of them, “ let him cast it into the waters.” What is due to men of the military and other classes, the debtor should, by parity of reasoning, pay to the heirs in regular succession, delivering it, on failure of nearer heirs, to the next remoter heir, down to distant kinsmen : but on failure of these, it must be paid to the king, under the rule of VISHNU concerning heredita-  
ble



ble property, "the wealth of all, but priests, *who die without heirs*, goes to the king (Book V, v. CCCCXVII)." But the property of priests may on no account be taken by the king. In this MISRA, BHAVADÉVA and others concur; and BAUDHĀYANA, quoted in the *Retnācara* under the title of inheritance, *forbids the sacrilege*. That text (Book V, v. CCCCXLIV) is expounded, "the property of *Bráhmaṇas* is the most exalted poison to him who seizes it." From the word "never" it appears, that the property of *Bráhmaṇas* must not even be received in the form of a tax. Accordingly, in his gloss on the institutes of PARAŚARA, MA'DHAVA cites the following texts of MENU.

CCXXXII.

MENU:—A KING, even though dying *with want*, must not receive any tax from a *Bráhmaṇa* learned in the *Védas*.

MENU:—THE king, having ascertained his knowledge of scripture and good morals, must allot him a suitable maintenance, and protect him on all sides, as a father protects his own son.

THE king must allot him (that is, the priest) a suitable maintenance, or the means of subsistence; and protect him on all sides, from robbers, rogues and the like. However, the direction in the text of NA'VEDA, "he shall bestow it on worthy priests, or cast it into the waters," is a law respecting the payment of debts.



## CHAPTER VI.

### ON REDRESS FOR NON-PAYMENT.

THIS, according to the author of the *Mitácshará*, may be also considered as the rule for receipt of debts by the creditor.

MENU:—WHAT has been practised by learned and virtuous men of twice-born tribes, if it be not inconsistent with the legal customs of provinces or districts, of classes or families, *let the king establish*.\*

“ LEARNED ;” well read ; AMERA interprets it wife or intelligent. “ Virtuous ;” endued with honesty ; not deceivers. “ Twice-born ;” *Bráhmaṇas*, *Cshatriyas*, and *Vaiśyas* : what has been practised by such men ; if it be not inconsistent with the legal customs of that country, of families and classes, *let the king establish*, or confirm the practice, adopting it as un-  
seen or unrecorded law. The text must be so supplied.

CULLŪCABHATTA.

IN that gloss the meaning of the expression “ confirm the practice” is, that he should decide, according to that practice, a doubtful case, for which no seen or recorded law provides.

### CCXXXIII.

MENU:—WHEN a creditor sues before him for the recovery of his right from a debtor, let him cause the debtor to pay what the creditor shall prove due.

\* Already cited at v. L.



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“ For the recovery of his right from a debtor ;” to obtain the sum lent. The king, on application from the owner of the sum, *for the recovery of it*, shall compel the debtor to pay to the creditor what he shall prove due by written or oral evidence or the like.

CULLŪCABHATTA.

ON application from the creditor for the recovery of what is due by the debtor, the king shall by various means compel the debtor to pay the creditor's right, or the sum which he proves by evidence to be due from the debtor.

CHANDĒSWARA.

IN what mode payment should be enforced, MENU declares.

CCXXXIV.

MENU:—BY whatever lawful means a creditor may have gotten possession of his own property, let the king ratify such payment by the debtor, though obtained even by compulsory means.

“ By compulsory means ;” by seizure, or distress.

CHANDĒSWARA and CULLŪCABHATTA.

THE debtor or his assets may be the subject, to which that expression refers. The same lawgiver declares the several means by which payment may be enforced.

CCXXXV.

MENU:—BY the mode consonant to moral duty *or by the mediation of friends*, by suit in court, by artful management, or by distress, a creditor may recover the property lent ; and, fifthly, by legal force.

*He may recover it by the methods last mentioned, if payment cannot be obtained by the several methods first mentioned.*

MISRA.

ANOTHER



ANOTHER mode will be subsequently mentioned. VRĪHASPATI explains the mode consonant to moral duty.

CCXXXVI.

VRĪHASPATI:—BY the interposition of friends and kinsmen, by mild remonstrances, by importunate following, or by staying constantly at the house of the debtor, he may be compelled to pay the debt: this mode of recovery is called a mode consonant to moral duty.

By the persuasive discourse of those who are friends and intimates of the debtor, or his kinsmen, such as maternal uncles and the rest; by mild remonstrances or honied language of the creditor himself; by importunate following or pursuit; by staying constantly at the house of the debtor, or by abiding near him, that is by the creditor's fasting and the like at the house of the debtor; by all these methods the debtor may be compelled to pay the debt to the creditor: this mode of recovery, by the interposition of friends and the like, is called a mode consonant to moral duty. This is merely an instance; it comprehends the interposition of honest strangers with discourse exciting a sense of shame, and so forth.

CĀTYĀYANA explains the mode of recovery by suit in court.

CCXXXVII.

CĀTYĀYANA:—A DEBTOR, being arrested *and freely acknowledging the debt*, may be openly dragged before the publick assembly, and confined until he pay what is due, according to the immemorial usage of the country.

THE restraint of the debtor by the creditor before the publick assembly, until he pay the sum due, is the mode of recovery by forensick proceeding.

The *Retnācara*:

HE may be detained and confined; he may be stopped and prevented from going where he lists, and so confined. “ Before the publick assembly;”  
otherwise



otherwise he might allege, that he was excessively beaten, and so forth. "According to the immemorial usage of the country;" according to the usage, which subsists in that particular country. For example; in some countries creditors cause their debtors to be arrested and confined by the king's officer; in others, they themselves, or their servants, restrain the debtor; in others again, they confine them in fetters.

OR a distinct method of recovering debts is called the mode of recovery consistent with the immemorial usage of the country; or it falls under the description of violent compulsion, and will be hereafter mentioned: "they must be made to pay their debts according to the custom of the country" (CXLII). It is limited by the restriction of the immemorial usage of the country. According to this opinion the mode of recovery by suit in court or practice must be otherwise explained. Thus the *Mēdbātī'bi* has this remark; 'from a debtor, who is indigent, payment must be obtained by a practical mode; and that practice consists in personal labour and the like. For instance; a creditor, lending a further sum to an indigent debtor, may employ him in his regular occupation, such as husbandry or the like: the produce thereby obtained should be delivered to the creditor.'

THIS, according to the preceding opinion, is a mode of recovery similar to that of suit in court described by CĀṬYĀYANA; it falls under the same description; for the text of CĀṬYĀYANA is merely illustrative. In fact, a debtor, being restrained, or being detained for work, otherwise than in the custody of the king's officer and the like, may be employed in his regular occupation, such as agriculture and the like: and in that case, the creditor may not employ a *Brāhmaṇa* in menial service, nor a *Vaiśya* in military duty; in some countries he may employ a *Brāhmaṇa* in agriculture or commerce, but he may not employ a barber or a mixed class in carrying burdens. To indicate this and other circumstances the legislator adds, "according to the immemorial usage of the country." That intends also the customs of families, and the usage established by law, and the like. Consequently the meaning is, a creditor may not employ his debtor in work inconsistent with usage. Again; in that country, where men of certain classes do not carry in a litter men of certain other classes, the creditor may



may not employ one of such a class in carrying the litter of a man of such other class.

By the phrase, "before a *publick* assembly," it is intimated, that the persons assembled should interpose to prevent such irregular employment. The possible accusation of maltreatment is thereby obviated, as before. Or the expression, "before a publick assembly," is intended to suggest the approbation to be obtained from impartial persons in this form, "this work, which is not inconsistent with local usage, the debtor must perform;" it obviates the possible accusation of infringing a customary right. This and other points may be deduced from reasoning.

"UNTIL he pay what is due;" consequently, if the debt were discharged, the creditor must omit the restraint and other measures. This is mentioned *incidentally*, wandering from the real subject.

VRĪHASPATI explains artful management.

### CCXXXVIII.

VRĪHASPATI: — WHEN a creditor, with an artful design, borrows any thing of his debtor, or withholds a thing deposited by him or the like, and thus compels payment of the debt, this is *called* legal deceit.

"WITH an artful design;" by stratagem. For instance; the creditor borrows effects of the debtor on such pretences as the following, and thus compels payment of the debt; "a guest of high rank is come to my house, lend me a metallick caldron for his service;" or on this pretence, "a kinsman of the bride is come to visit the bridegroom, lend me silk clothes, ornaments and the like, to array the bridegroom."

"WITHHOLDS a thing deposited by him;" or any thing subsequently intrusted. For instance; a creditor, who had formerly lent ten *cārshāpanas*, but cannot recover the sum, resolves on using artifice, and the debtor is desirous of borrowing a further sum; the creditor tells him, "I will further



lend you fifty *panas* of copper, and you shall pay the whole at once, but you must give a pledge." The debtor, so addressed, delivers a pledge of greater value, and the creditor, giving a small part of the sum, tells him, " I will give the whole sum the day after tomorrow." On that day he delivers the sum diminished by the amount of his former debt, or attaches a sufficient part of the pledge. In such a case he withholds a thing subsequently intrusted. The term " and the like" comprehends deposits and the rest. In such a case there is not the absolute sin of wronging one who has reposed confidence in him, provided he do not take more than his due.

AGAIN; a dishonest debtor, delivering a pledge for custody only, receives a loan, but refuses to pay the debt at its term; the cunning creditor mentions in various places, " his pledge, which was in my possession, has been stolen by thieves." On hearing this through successive report, the debtor tenders the principal with interest, and demands his pledge; and that creditor delivers the pledge, *and takes the sum tendered*. In this case the fallacy must be considered as an artifice. Such a mode of recovering debts is called legal deceit. Deceit (*upadhi*) is synonymous with artifice.

VRĪHASPATI also explains distress.

#### CCXXXIX.

VRĪHASPATI:—WHEN he forces the debtor to pay by confining his son, his wife or his cattle, or by watching constantly at his door, this is called lawful confinement.

THE method of recovery by the restraint of his wife, his son, or his cattle, or by watching at his door, is called lawful confinement, or distress. This is a mere illustration; the ultimate sense is, ' causing him to suffer inconvenience by any mode.' However, that should not be done, by which he may be exposed to great danger. This we hold reasonable.

THE same legislator explains legal force.



CCXL.

**VRIHASPATI:—**WHEN, having tied the debtor, he carries him to his own house, and, by beating or other means compels him to pay, this is called violent compulsion.

**BINDING** him and carrying him to his own house, he may threaten to beat him and so forth ; frightened by those menaces, the debtor pays the debt : in such a case, the threat of blows, preceded by confinement, is a mode of recovering debts, which is called violent compulsion or legal force. The carrying of him to his own house is not requisite ; for the threat of beating him on the road, or at some other place, is violent compulsion. The binding may be no more than *forcible* seizure ; consequently the threat of blows, after catching him by the hair, must be deemed violent compulsion.

**VIOLENT** compulsion is a mode of recovery defined as consisting in blows and the like after carrying the debtor to his own house.

The *Retnācara*.

**ACCORDING** to this author even blows are authorized. Under the term “ and the like ” is comprehended harsh reproof, or verbal abuse and the like.

CCXLI.

**CĀTYĀYANA:—**By beating, or by coercion, a creditor may enforce payment from his debtor, or by work, by suit in court, or by mild remonstrance : first *duly* deliberating on the method to be followed :

2. Or let him obtain the sum due by artifice, or distress.

**IN** this text “ beating ” signifies legal force or violent compulsion ; “ coercion,” staying constantly at the house of the debtor or importunate attendance. The term is so explained in the gloss of the *Retnācara* : in effect it denotes the creditor himself refraining from food and the like ; and that



that falls within the mode consonant to moral duty, as described by VRĪHASPATI. CHANDÉSWARA explains "work" or *proper* conduct, by an example : for instance, reflecting, " he is very dishonest and will not repay the loan he receives from me : I must recover the debt by blows and other suitable methods ;" the creditor adopts proper measures. Ultimately it suggests both means, *proper conduct, and obliging the debtor to work* ; this *last* falls under the description of mild methods : it does not vary from the sense of MENU's text, Or " work" may bear the *literal* sense of labour : it shall be subsequently discussed under the text of YĀJNYAWALKYA. But "suit in court," which has been explained as a *similar mode*, is also noticed by CĀTĪYĀYANA. "Mild remonstrance:" affectionate language with praise and the like. "Deliberating;" determining after due deliberation.

CĀTĪYĀYANA next declares from what debtor payment should be obtained, in what mode.

## CCXLII.

CĀTĪYĀYANA:—By mild expostulation let a creditor procure payment from a king, from his master, and from a priest ; but from an evil minded man or an heir, by some artful contrivance.

2. MENU ordained, that merchants, cultivators of land, and artists, must be made to pay their debts, according to the custom of the country ; but that a creditor might enforce payment from dishonest debtors by violent measures.

"HEIR;" inheritor. In some places the text is read, "BHRĪGU ordained."

HE ordained, that merchants, cultivators of land, and artists, must be made to pay their debts, according to the custom of the country.

The *Retnācara*.

"A PRIEST" or spiritual parent : but if any other than a priest happen  
 to



to be spiritual parent of the creditor, he also is suggested by the word "priest" taken illustratively. Again; the word "priest" (*vipra*) may be taken in the simple sense of venerable, for it has that import: and a person, to whom veneration is due from the creditor, is meant. Why are the "king" and "the creditor's master" separately mentioned? The answer is, because disrespect to the king, or to his own master, produces evil in this world; to intimate this, they have been separately mentioned. It may be here remarked, that in some instances even a *Śūdra* is venerable.

**YAJÑYAWALKYA:—**SCIENCE, moral conduct, age, kindred and wealth, entitle men to respect; and most that, which is first mentioned in order: with these qualities, even a *Śūdra* deserves respect in his old age.

WITH these qualities in an eminent degree, namely science and the rest, even a *Śūdra* is entitled to veneration, when his age passes ninety years. Thus MENU expresses, "even a *Śūdra* is venerable, if he have entered the tenth decad of his age."\*

The *Dīpācalicā*.

SHOULD many venerable persons be assembled, respect must be first shown in society to the learned man; next to him, whose conduct is pure; afterwards to the aged man; next to one, who has learned kinsmen and the like; and lastly to the wealthy man. And this concerns priests: valour and the like chiefly entitle a soldier to respect; and riches, a merchant. But here, should many learned men be assembled, the precedence must be regulated by the preeminence of their respective sciences; for the *Srī Bhāgavata* records, "That indeed is science, by which the knowledge of God is advanced." Science, consisting in knowledge, which advances diligent obsequiousness, entitles a *Śūdra* to respect; or skill in arts, the science of medicine, or the military art. From him, payment must be procured by mild remonstrance, tender expostulation, or the interposition of friends and kinsmen. Surely, from a soldier and the rest, payment must be procured by this mode. "An evil-minded man;" one, who is dishonest but not unentitled to respect. It is the

\* Chapter 2, v. 137.





same in regard to soldiers and the rest, who cannot be treated with disrespect. It is also the same in regard to kindred, pupils, and the like.

“AND artists;” (CCXLII 2) the particle suggests the comprehension of *Vaiśyas* and the rest. “Dishonest debtors:” averse from the discharge of their debts, not afraid of acting immorally, ignorant and so forth, but not entitled to respect; in a word, *Sūdras* and the rest. Distress must be employed, when violent measures cannot be adopted. The term used in the text signifies violent measures.

IN defining the mode of recovering debts by suit in court (CXXXVII), it is said “arrested, dragged and confined.” How can that be? For, should the ejection of urine and feces, and other corporeal necessities, be prevented, life could not be preserved. For this, CA'TYA'YANA delivers a precept.

CCXLIII.

CA'TYA'YANA:—WHEN a prisoner has need of ejecting urine or feces, he should either be followed *at a distance*, or dismissed in fetters:

2. Should he have given a surety, he must be released each day, at the hour of meals; and at night, if a surety have been given to such effect:

3. But, if he do not tender a surety for appearance, nor avail himself of such a surety, he must be confined in jail, or delivered to the custody of keepers.

4. A VENERABLE, trustworthy and virtuous man shall not be confined in jail; unrestrained, he must be released, or *be dismissed* under the obligation of an oath.

“WHEN he has need &c.” when he intimates such occasion, he must be followed, *or watched*, at a distance from the place where urine and feces are ejected. “Or dismissed in fetters;” bound by chains and the like. Two

disjunctive



disjunctive particles, here employed, are intended to show distinct rules governed by the nature or amount of the debt, and by the character of the debtor.

WHAT should be done at the hour of meals? The legislator adds, "should he have given a surety," should a surety have been given, or a sponsor assigned, he must be released each day, at that hour of meals, for which the surety became answerable. Consequently, after taking a surety for the hour of meals, he should be daily released. In the *Retnâcara* the terms are expounded, a prisoner from whom a surety is taken. From the expression "each day," it appears, that a surety should be taken each day, that is at the hour of sunrise. Still, however, the terms, "and at night," authorize the release of a debtor at night also, when a surety has been previously taken: and the word "day" may signify a day and night. A synonymous term, bearing a general sense, occurs in the text concerning hair-interest (XXXV 4). Yet the acceptation may follow the texts of sages concerning attendance on cattle; for instance, the text cited in the *Prâyaśchitta tatwa*.\*

THIS must be understood, when he cannot obtain his repast without giving a surety. "And at night;" even at night, if a surety say, "this man shall be produced by me, let him go home at night:" in that case he should also be released at night. But, if no man become surety for him, because he is suspected of dishonesty; or if he do not seek bail; or, having given a surety for appearance, if the debtor, being released, do not again apply to his surety; what should be done in these cases? The legislator says, "if he do not tender a surety for appearance (if he cannot obtain a surety), or do not avail himself of such a surety" (or do not so act as is proper after finding bail); or, having given bail and being liberated by the creditor, if he do not again attend his surety, that is if he conceal himself from him and so forth (both may be understood from the ambiguous terms of the text); in these cases, should he be at any time discovered after laborious search, he shall be confined in jail. That is, he shall be confined

\* Cited here at full length, but omitted in its proper place, Book III, Chapter IV. (See note to v. IX of that chapter).





at night within closed gates and the like ; but at the hour of meals he must be followed by the creditor himself, or be suffered to take his repast, bound in fetters or the like : in the same manner he should be allowed to bathe, but, if possible, he should take his repast within the prison. If there be keepers of the jail, let the creditor imprison him there, after giving notice to the jailers. But, when the creditor himself enforces payment of the debt, he may confine him in his own house.

BUT, if the debtor be not liable to confinement in prison, or if he be trustworthy, the creditor shall not confine him in a jail. This the legislator declares (CCXLIII<sub>4</sub>). Should such a venerable person be not trustworthy, or, though *in general* trustworthy, if confidence be not placed in him, he must be dismissed under the obligation of an oath. This and other points may be argued.

CHANDĒSWARA and the rest give a similar exposition, but in his gloss it is said, ‘ if the debtor do not tender, or if he refuse to give, a surety for appearance or other sponsor.’ The word ‘ other’ intends a surety for payment. Consequently “ surety for appearance” is considered as merely illustrative. The term (translated do not “ avail himself”) is here explained as signifying “ refuse.” The disjunctive particle has a reference to the word “ tender,” which occurs in the text. His refusal may be in this form, “ how should I give a surety, I am not trusted?” Such a speech, when he is arrested by the creditor or the king, *is deemed a refusal*. But in fact a surety for payment can hardly be supposed *in the present case*. For instance ; should any one say, “ release this man, I will pay what is due by him,” the creditor may reply, “ the term of payment has already elapsed, discharge it therefore immediately :” with this notion, a surety for appearance *only* is mentioned. However, since the term *of payment* may be enlarged through the interposition of mediators, it is possible, that a surety for payment should also be given. The opinion of CHANDĒSWARA may therefore be justified. The confinement of a trustworthy man is unnecessary, because he can give a surety.

## CCXLIV.

VRĪHASPATI:—FROM a debtor, who promises payment, the  
debt



debt may be recovered by mild remonstrance and the like, and by *employing him in* work, by the mode of *moral* duty, by legal deceit, by violent compulsion, and by confinement at home.

“ By mild remonstrance and the like;” since the interposition of friends and the rest, and the withholding of a deposit and the like, are comprehended under the term “ and the like,” those modes of recovering a debt, which are consonant to moral duty and so forth, are alone exhibited: the legislator himself details those very modes of recovery by mild remonstrance and the rest; “ by the mode of moral duty, by legal deceit &c.” “ By confinement at home;” by the mode of lawful confinement: for he himself denominates confinement at home, the mode of lawful confinement. “ By *employing him in* work;” by labour. On this consideration, CHANDESWARA has not admitted the enunciation of the word “ labour” in the definition of violent compulsion. By him four methods only are mentioned. Suit in court falls within the mode of violent compulsion. There is not consequently any contradiction to MENU, who notices five modes. CATYAYANA has not separately mentioned distress or lawful confinement. It falls under the description of compulsory means, *but* is a slighter compulsion, as has been already remarked.

By what means shall payment be obtained from him, who has no assets? Wanting funds, what can he pay? Therefore does MENU propound a mode of discharging debts in such cases.

#### CCXLV.

MENU:—EVEN by personal labour shall the debtor pay what is adjudged, if he be of the same class with the creditor, or of a lower; but a debtor of a higher class must pay it *according to his income* by little and little.

A DEBTOR of equal or inferior class to the creditor should by labour put himself on a par with his creditor; the parity consists in mutual exoneration from debt: consequently the sense is, he should discharge the debt. Before the debt



was discharged, there was this disparity, that one was creditor, the other debtor ; but the debt being discharged by means of labour, on a computation of the hire for work performed, that disparity vanishes. Work must be performed by him alone, the rule of whose class, country, and family, is not thereby infringed : as has been already remarked. But, if the creditor be of the commercial class, and the debtor of the military class, the lawgiver declares what should be done; “ but a debtor of a higher or *superiour* class must pay it by little and little.” Here it should be considered, that the debtor of a higher class should be employed in labour consistent with his regular occupation, at some other suitable place, not at the creditor’s house ; after assigning a sufficient portion of his earnings for the maintenance of his family, the remainder should be delivered to the creditor.

BUT, if the creditor, as well as the debtor, be of the sacerdotal class, may the creditor oblige that debtor to work for him, since he is of equal class ? or may he not so employ him ?

#### CCXLVI.

VRĪHASPATI:—IF the debtor be really poor, the creditor may take him to his own house, and oblige him to work in distilling spirits and the like ; but a priest must be made to pay gradually.

“ IN distilling spirits and the like ;” since the text coincides with that of MENU, a debtor of equal or inferior class is intended. But the subsequent phrase intimates, that a *Brāhmaṇa*, even though indebted to a man of the same class, shall not be compelled to work : for, if it supposed him indebted to a *Cshatriya* or the rest, the text would be nugatory. The reason is, that *Brāhmaṇas* are eminent in respect of each other ; for their greatness is unlimited.

#### CCXLVII.

YAJÑYAWALKYA:—HE may compel a poor debtor of a low class to do work by way of paying his debt : but a priest, if indigent, must be made to pay gradually according to his income, or *casual gains*.



“ By way of paying his debt ;” for the discharge of his debt. “ According to his income ;” according to the acquisition of funds.

The *Retnâcara*.

BUT we expound “ a low class,” a lower class than the sacerdotal tribe, namely the military class and the rest. “ Gradually ;” employing a priest in his regular occupation, as sacrificing and collecting alms ; or, if that fail, in bearing arms and the like ; and out of his earnings, supplying the maintenance of his family with frugality, the remainder should be applied to the discharge of his debt. In proportion as a surplus remains, should the debt be discharged : and this appears from the expression, “ a priest must be made to pay gradually.” But here “ a low class ” is taken as intending also an equal class ; and “ priest,” as intending a superiour class. This is likewise remarked in the *Mitâcsharâ*. The text also concerns a debtor of equal class as well as of inferiour class. CA'TYA'YANA declares it expressly.

#### CCXLVIII.

CA'TYA'YANA :—THE creditor may exact payment by labour from a debtor of the military, commercial, or servile class, if he be either equal to himself or lower.

By the enumeration of “ military, commercial and servile classes,” it is here intimated, that payment of a debt should be procured from a man of the priestly class by another mode : and that has been already propounded, as declared by VRĪHASPATI and YA'JNYAWALKYA. The term “ servile class ” intends generally any very low class, and comprehends therefore mixed classes, such as *Mûrdhâbbishicta* and the rest. The particulars of these classes should be delivered under the title, where tribes are considered.

HE should only compel his debtor to perform work, which is not reprehended, as has been already hinted. But, if he oblige him to perform work, which is reprehended, what should follow ?

#### CCXLIX.

CA'TYA'YANA :—BUT if he compel the debtor to do any improper



improper work not stipulated at first, he shall be fined in the first amercement, and the debtor shall be released from his demand.

“Not stipulated at first;” not mentioned when the debt was contracted. For instance; if the debtor said “I will pay thee this debt by any work, even the most abject, if I cannot discharge it by honourable means;” in that case such work has been stipulated: but, if he simply say, “I will pay the debt,” or “I will discharge it by labour;” in that case, should the creditor oblige him to perform such work, which has not been stipulated, the creditor shall pay the first amercement, that is a fine denominated the first amercement. That fine is explained by MENU; “Now two hundred and fifty *panas* are declared to be the first amercement.” This may be properly discussed under the title of fines.

THAT sort of labour is reprehended, which is not authorized by the system of law. For example; the regular employment of a *Cshatriya* is the use of arms offensive and defensive; but, if that fail, commerce and certain other occupations are authorized by the law: work of a different nature is reprehended. But to a *Cshatriya*, who abandons not his own profession, however distressed, commerce and the rest are also abject occupations. Yet to him, who has undertaken commerce and the like, or is willing to undertake it, such an occupation is not a blamable employment. However, service and low mechanical arts are abject occupations. The same should be understood in regard to men of the commercial class and the rest: and that is ascertained from practice. This has been sufficiently explained.

It should be here remarked, that a *Bráhmāna*, who subsists even by agriculture, is not considered as following a profession foreign to him: the creditor may not tell him, “following the profession of arms or the like, and thereby earning money, pay the debt.” Again; daughters, sons and the rest should not be sold: therefore, from parity of reasoning, no debtor, who-so-ever, can be compelled to sell his children, in as much as the act is immoral.

THE debtor is exonerated from the debt.

The *Retnācāra*.

By



By labour alone a debt is fully discharged ; but release from the demand is again mentioned, to show, that in this case the debtor is exonerated, however inconsiderable the work performed.

CCL.

NĀREDA :—SHOULD a debtor be disabled by *famine or other* calamity of the time, from paying the whole debt, he shall be only compelled to pay it in *small sums* from time to time according to his ability, as he happens to gain property.

SHOULD he be disabled from paying the debt, through some calamity of the time, that is, in consequence of famine or the like.

The *Retnācara*.

SOME hold, that this text concerns *Brāhmanas* and debtors superiour in class to the creditor ; for it coincides with the text of MENU and the rest. But, in fact, this text may also be applicable to any case, where the creditor cannot oblige him to work, or where the debtor is incapable of labour.

It should be here understood, that MENU (CCXXXIII) directs payment to be enforced by the king ; the subsequent text (CCXXXIV) seems also to intend payment enforced by the king. The creditor therefore applies to the king, saying “ this debtor does not liquidate my debt,” the king, finding that the debt is to be recovered from a man of the priestly class, adopts the mode of moral duty ; calling the debtor’s intimate friend or the like, he sends him to obtain payment of the debt from that man by mild expostulation ; or procures payment by his own mild remonstrances ; or suffers the creditor to beset the house of the debtor, fasting there. But, if the debtor be a merchant, he shall only be made to pay the debt according to the custom of the country ; the king himself should confine him in the custody of his own officers : this and other modes should be understood. But, if the debtor be very contumacious, and one whom the king cannot reduce by reason of his great power, he should bid the creditor procure payment by withholding a deposit or the like. The mode of violent compulsion is



obvious. If that be not practised, he should send the creditor to pursue the mode of lawful confinement or distress: this mode has been discussed. Suit in court, or, as explained in the *Médbátit'bi*, practice of labour, should be followed for the recovery of a debt from a very indigent debtor. It consists in this; taking a further sum from the creditor, let the king advance it to the debtor, who must labour in husbandry, commerce or the like, and deliver to the creditor the property thereby gained. This appears from a brief examination of the subject.

IN these definitions of the modes of recovery, creditor is mentioned indefinitely; but is described as a person recovering his property, as one who had advanced money, as owner of the effects. It follows, that these methods are universally applicable to deposits and the like. Accordingly, in the chapter on redemption of pledges, "deceit" and "confinement" are mentioned in the text of VRĪHASPATI (CII); it thence appears, that the king shall not compel a creditor to restore a pledge to the debtor, by the mode of confinement and the rest: wherefore "debtor," in the definition of lawful confinement, must be understood to signify one, who has received property from another.

IF the creditor do not apply to the king, but himself procure payment of the debt, by some legal mode, such as that of moral duty and the rest, shall he be punished, or not? On this subject MENU declares *the law*.

#### CCLI.

**MENU:—**THAT creditor, who recovers his right from a debtor, must not be rebuked by the king for retaking his own property.

A CREDITOR, pursuing modes of recovery, such as that of moral duty and the rest, in proper cases, shall not be checked by the king: such is the sense.

The *Retnâcara*.

"IN proper cases;" pursuing the mode of moral duty, if the debtor be  
of



( 363 )

of the priestly class and the like; deceit, if he be an heir, and so forth. "The creditor shall not be checked;" then surely he shall not be punished. But, if he act contrary to law, a punishment shall be inflicted. This appears from the terms used in the *Retnácara*; and that punishment may be harsh rebuke or other correction: this can only be discussed with propriety under the title of punishment.

CULLŪCABHATTA expounds "he shall not be rebuked," he shall not be chidden by the king in these terms; "hast thou dared to recover the debt from thy debtor by violent means, without acquainting me?" If there be no reproof, surely there shall be no punishment.

#### CCLII.

VISHNU:—A CREDITOR, recovering the sum lent by any *lawful* means, detention, bondage or the like, shall not be reproved by the king; if the debtor, so forced to discharge the debt, complain to the king, he shall be fined in an equal sum.

"AN equal sum;" a sum equal to the debt recovered.

The *Retnácara*.

"DETENTION;" lawful confinement, and suit in court as described by CĀTYĀYANA. "Bondage;" violent means. The term, "or the like," comprehends the other modes of recovery.

#### CCLIII.

YĀJNYWALCYA:—HE, who recovers an acknowledged debt by his own act, *in any of the legal modes to which the debtor has tacitly consented*, shall not be blamed by the king; and, if the debtor shall complain of such an act before the king, he shall be fined and compelled to pay the debt.

"ACKNOWLEDGED;" owned.

The *Mitácshará*.



A CREDITOR, recovering an acknowledged sum, or a debt proved by witnesses or the like, shall not be blamed by the king in these terms, “ why didst thou so ? ” If a debtor, on whom violent means and the like have been used to enforce payment, wickedly complain before the king, he shall be blamed by the king, that is, he shall be fined ; and he shall be compelled to pay the debt. This exposition is approved in the *Dīpacalcā*. The text, already cited from VISHNU, regulates the amount of the fine ; he shall therefore be amerced in a sum equal to the debt.

Is not an amercement equal to the amount of the debt inconsistent with the following text of MENU ?

CCLIV.

MENU :—THE debtor, who complains before the king, that his creditor has recovered the debt by his own legal act, *as before mentioned*, shall be compelled by the king to pay a quarter of the sum *as a fine*, and the creditor shall be left in possession of his own.

It appears from this text, that he shall be fined in a fourth part of the debt. On this CHANDĒSWARA remarks, that ‘ an amercement equal to a fourth part of the sum must be understood, when the offender is unable to pay a *larger* fine, or is *in general* virtuous.’ Consequently a fine equal to the whole sum is considered as the general rule. But CULLU’CABHATTA thus propounds the text ; ‘ should a debtor complain to the king against a creditor, who recovered the debt by his own act, thinking, that he has great influence over the monarch, that debtor shall be fined in a quarter of the debt, and the sum *recovered* shall be assigned to the creditor.’ And that is reasonable ; for it was proper, that he should recover the debt by application through some person near the king : in this case, since the creditor may also be charged with a slight offence, a smaller fine is imposed on the debtor. Again ; if the debtor be *in general* virtuous, or be unable to pay a large fine, the same consequence is reasonable ; and the exposition, adopted by CHANDĒSWARA, may therefore be justified.



YET some think, that, because the institutes of MENU prevail over all other codes, his texts should not be restricted in consequence of a rule of VISHNU. The fine, specified by MENU, must therefore be considered as the general amercement; and according to that text, and restricting the law propounded by VISHNU, his rule must be applied to the case of a very dishonest debtor. That is wrong; for the law, as propounded by MENU, still needs qualification. The rule of VISHNU, *thus expounded*, signifies, that a very perverse debtor, complaining before the king of his creditor's enforcing payment, shall be fined in a sum equal to the debt; it still contradicts the text of MENU, for that signifies, that a debtor, complaining before the king, shall be fined in a quarter of the debt: to reconcile the apparent inconsistency with the rule of VISHNU, "not dishonest" must be given as an epithet to "debtor" in the text of MENU; and the law, propounded by MENU, has needed qualification. This must be admitted by the wise.

BUT, if the debtor be unable to pay the sum by any means whatsoever, wheel-interest may be exacted at the choice of the creditor.

#### CCLV.

VRĪHASPATI:—AFTER the time for payment has past, and when the interest ceases, *on becoming equal to the principal*, the creditor may either recover his debt, or require a new writing in the form of wheel-interest (*chacravṛiddhi*).

"WHEN interest ceases," after accumulating to its limit.

The *Retnācara*.

"AFTER the time for payment has past;" this may be considered as relating to a loan for a specified time. "When interest ceases," concerns a debt unlimited as to time. Hence it appears, that, if a creditor, by violent methods or the like, exact payment of a sum lent for a limited time, before its term has expired, or of a debt for no limited time, before interest ceases, he shall be punished. But, if he can recover it by mild expostulation, no offence shall be imputed to the creditor, as suggested by another text of VRĪHASPATI (CLXVI 2).



“ OR require a new writing” (that is, a written contract) in the form of wheel-interest. Making the doubled sum the principal, and stipulating interest afresh, he may require a new writing, after cancelling the former note.

CCLVI.

CĀTYĀYANA: — TWICE the sum lent should always be received by the creditor, *if the debt be of long standing*; but *if the debtor do not pay twice the principal when interest has ceased*, the creditor may again exact *an agreement for interest*.

“ TWICE the sum” is here mentioned on the supposition of a debt consisting of gold or the like; but if clothes or other commodities were lent, four times the value, or other multiple *of its*, as declared *by the law*, must be understood. Accordingly VRĪHASPATI says generally, “ when interest ceases.”

“ WHEN interest has ceased” (CCLVI); when interest has stopped; if he do not then pay: the text must be so supplied. In that case “ the creditor may again exact interest;” making the former debt together with interest his present principal, he may stipulate interest afresh: and this is the wheel-interest mentioned by VRĪHASPATI. Such wheel-interest is of three kinds, as declared by MENU.

CCLVII.

MENU: — HE, who cannot pay the debt *at the fixed time*, and wishes to renew the contract, may renew it in writing, *with the creditor's assent*, if he pay *all* the interest then due; .

2. But if, by some *unavoidable accident*, he cannot pay the whole interest, he may insert *as principal* in the renewed contract so much of the interest accrued as he ought to pay.

“ THEN due;” the interest legally due to the creditor: paying the whole or a part of that, he may renew the contract or writing; that is, tearing the former



former writing, he may execute a new bond. If the whole interest be paid, fresh interest on the original debt only is stipulated : this is one form of wheel-interest; and in this case the expression “ he, who cannot pay the debt ” signifies one, who is only unable to pay the principal. If a part of the interest be paid, interest may be stipulated afresh on the principal of the debt together with part of the interest accrued : this is another form of wheel-interest ; and in this case the expression quoted signifies one, who is unable to pay the original debt and a part of the interest. But, if he do not pay “ the interest then due ” (for the phrase is connected with the preceding terms), that is, if he pay no part of the interest, he must renew the debt for the sum then due as a new principal ; *in other words*, he must acknowledge it a fresh debt, that is admit the interest as a debt ; and acknowledging it a new debt, it follows of course, that interest shall again accrue. Or connecting the phrase with preceding terms, the construction may be thus ; ‘ if he do not pay the amount of interest, he must renew the contract : ’ consequently he must renew the written contract, inserting as a new principal the original debt with interest. In this case the expression quoted signifies one, who is unable to pay the original debt and the whole of the interest ; or that may be the sense in all these cases.

“ So much of the interest accrued as he ought to pay ; ” this is purposely mentioned to remove the doubt, how he should pay the interest ; whether he may pay any part which is forthcoming, or must pay the whole interest at once. In the preceding text, “ if he pay the interest then due,” it is supposed, that he pays the whole interest ; for no distinction is expressed. Consequently two cases only are fully declared : and by the last phrase, explained “ so much of the interest as may happen to be due,” it is intimated, that, after paying some part of the interest, he should renew the contract, inserting as principal the original debt with *the remaining* part of the interest. Such is the notion entertained by CULLU‘CABHATTA. Three cases therefore arise even on this exposition.

WHEN a debtor renews a contract after paying the whole interest *then due*, how can it be wheel-interest, since it does not correspond with the text of VRĪHASPATI and YA‘JNYAWALCYA, describing that as interest



upon interest; for in this case there is no interest upon interest? It is answered, the word (*vriddh*) is in the fifth, not the sixth, case: consequently, after stipulated or legal interest, *further* interest, which was not promised when the debt was originally contracted, is wheel-interest, or *interest after interest*; there is no difficulty. Such is the interpretation approved by CHANDĒSWARA; for he says, ‘the debtor may renew the contract with interest on the principal together with some part of the interest accrued, or on the principal alone.’

SOME explain the first text, “if he pay some part of the interest then due.” Consequently, if some part of it be paid, or the whole be unpaid, wheel-interest may be stipulated. Two forms of it are therefore mentioned by MENU, not three; for a third is not specified. But when the whole interest has been paid, if the bond be then renewed, there is no wheel-interest, but a fresh debt by the voluntary act of the debtor. In that case interest is therefore legal in a moral view: but interest upon interest is immoral. Or that also may be deemed immoral, under the text of VRĪSHASPATI (XXXV 7).

BUT rigid interpreters thus expound the text: he, who cannot pay the whole debt, principal and interest, being unable to effect its full discharge, but able to pay some part of the interest, or the whole interest (that is, unable to pay a certain portion of the debt), must renew the contract in writing: he must stipulate interest afresh; else the renewal of the contract would be useless: and this has been expressly declared by CĀTYAYANA. How can that be, since there is not a new loan? Therefore does MENU declare, “he may insert *as principal* in the renewed contract the sum then due.” That being the case, must a writing be executed, which contains a fallacy? For this cause does the legislator add, “if he cannot pay; *literally, not producing the sum*.” therefore, mentally paying the sum due, let him borrow it again. If some assets be forthcoming, may, or may not, a part of the interest be paid therewith? On this point the sage adds, “he has a right to pay as much of the interest as is possible.”\*

\* According to the literal sense of the text: but it has been otherwise translated on the authority of commentators.



CCLVIII.

MENU:—A LENDER at interest on *the risk of* safe carriage (*chacravriddhi*), who has agreed on the place and time, shall not receive such interest, if *by accident* the goods are not carried to the place, or within the time.

“WHO has agreed on the place and time,” is thus expounded on the authority of CHANDÉSWARA: the debtor says, “I will pay the debt at such a place and at such a time;” and the creditor assents to that proposal. Such a creditor is a lender at wheel-interest, having bargained for interest of that description. If he passes that place and time; if he do not go to that place at that time, the creditor shall not receive such interest, namely wheel-interest: of course he must receive back the sum lent without interest. Hence, even should interest prescribed by the law be stipulated for a certain time and place, it shall not be received by the creditor, if he do not attend at that place and time: for that small omission annuls legal interest.

BUT CULLUCABHATTA expounds the text otherwise: the term “wheel” denotes the use of a wheel carriage or the like. A lender, who has accepted that by way of interest, and has agreed on the place and time; for instance, *he has agreed, that* “a journey to *Vārāṇasī*, or the use of the carriage for a year, shall be the only interest:” in such a case, if the debtor fail in time and place, if he do not carry *goods* to *Vārāṇasī*, or do not carry *goods* during the year, he shall not receive the benefit, that is, the whole hire of the carriage. Consequently the whole interest is undischarged. \*

CCLIX.

VRIHASPATI:—As the original debt together with *the arrear* of interest becomes a *new* principal, when wheel-interest is received after the debt is doubled, so does the use of a pledge *forborne* become a *new* principal in a similar case.

WHEN wheel-interest is received after the debt is doubled, as in that case the original debt with interest becomes a new principal,

\* The translation, which I quote unaltered, varies from both comments (MENU; Chapter 8, v. 156.)



so does the use of a pledge also become a new principal in a certain case; that is, even the use and profit of a pledge bear interest. For example; a man borrows money, pledging a cow on these terms; "this cow shall be milked by you, so long as I do not discharge the debt;" or, "this cow shall be milked by you during fifty months;" or, "she shall be milked to make good the interest of the debt." In this case, should the cow accidentally die notwithstanding the utmost care, or be stolen by thieves or the like; then, if the debtor do not give a fresh pledge, the value of usufruct and the principal sum must be paid at the time of discharging the debt. But, if the debtor cannot do so, then, being sued before the king or before a public assembly, or attending the creditor of his own accord, he executes a new writing in the form of wheel-interest. In that case he may execute a bond after paying the value of usufruct; should even that exceed his means, he may add the principal sum to that value, and, inserting as principal the accumulated sum, execute a new deed, in which stipulated interest and the like, or legal interest at the rate of an eightieth part and so forth, may be established by consent of both parties; and he may cancel the former note.

HERE an observation should be made. When a debt was contracted on these terms, "let this cow be milked until the debt be discharged," but *afterwards*, the cow being accidentally lost, wheel-interest is stipulated by the debtor, whom the creditor has arrested, it must not be said, that, *in such a case* the value of the use *lost* before the renewal of the contract should be inserted therein, and the interest subsequent to it must follow the rate of profit from the use of the cow. On the contrary, any other rate, which may be settled, such as an eightieth part or the like, shall regulate the interest; for, in fact, it becomes a new debt.

#### CCLX.

VRĪHASPATI: — THIS rule concerns an acknowledged debt; but he, who contests the demand, shall be compelled to pay on proof in court by written evidence or oral testimony.

THIS rule, already propounded, for the recovery of a debt by expostulation and



and other modes, concerns an acknowledged debt, or one which is ascertained to be due. But, if the debtor contest the demand; if he deny the debt, saying "I owe not the sum," he shall be compelled to pay it, when the debt has been proved by written evidence or the like; he shall not be forced to pay it on the simple affirmation of the creditor. "Or by oral testimony;" the particle is indeterminate, comprehending *verbal* contract and the like. For example; the creditor at some former time demanded payment of the debt from his debtor; he replied, "I will pay it at the end of a month;" if any honest man know this fact, the debt may be thereby proved. So long as it be unproved, the creditor shall not use the means of recovery. If he do, VRĪHASPATI ordains a fine.

CCLXI.

VRĪHASPATI:—WHEN the debtor appeals to judicature, or when the demand is unliquidated, he shall never be constrained by the mere act of the creditor; and he, who constrains a debtor thus exempted from such constraint, shall be fined according to law.

If the demand be, for any reason, unliquidated or dubious, the debtor, who appeals to judicature, shall not be compelled or forced to pay. He, who constrains a debtor thus exempted from constraint or compulsion, shall be fined: and the fine thus ordained must be understood in the case, where the creditor enforces payment by his own act, or through the king's officers. But, when that is done by the king, expiation must be performed, for none has mentioned a fine on *the king* himself.

Who is considered as a debtor appealing to judicature? The same legislator replies to that question.

CCLXII.

VRĪHASPATI:—A DEBTOR is considered as appealing to judicature, when he says, "I will pay whatever shall by law be declared to be due."

"WHEN



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“ WHEN he says ;” a debtor, who says &c. A debtor appealing to judicature (*criyāvādī*) pleads or claims (*vadati*) actual proof of a fact (*criyā*) ; such as legal evidence and so forth.

THE same lawgiver explains a demand unliquidated.

### CCLXIII.

VRĪHASPATI:—THE demand is considered as unliquidated, when a dispute arises between the two parties on the species lent, or its number, weight, or measure, *on the value of a pledge* or the like, on the amount of interest, or on *the question* whether the sum be, or be not, due.

“ ON the species lent ;” on the nature of the property lent, whether it be gold, silver, or other species. For instance ; it is ascertained, that the debt bears interest at the rate of an eightieth part or the like ; and it is also admitted by the debtor, that he contracted the debt in such a month and year ; but it is questioned, whether the species lent were gold or silver. So, “ on its number, weight, or measure,” it is questioned, whether a hundred pieces, or eighty, were borrowed. Under the term “ and the like” is comprehended slavery and so forth.

The *Retnācara*.

THE meaning is, when a slave has been pledged, it is questioned whether his service were assigned for one or two months. Under the term “ and the like” are comprehended the questions, whether a pledge were assigned, or a surety given. “ On the amount of interest ;” the doubt is, whether the loan bear interest or not, or whether the rate be an eightieth part of the principal. “ On the question, whether the sum be, or be not, due ;” for instance, the debtor questions whether he received the loan or not ; whether he repaid it or not ; in other words, whether it be due from him or not : the verb (*da'*, give) here signifies payment. When a dispute or disagreement arises between the two parties, namely between the claimant and respondent, that debt, concerning which it arises, is a demand unliquidated. The questions abovementioned are intended by the term dispute. Accordingly MENU

(CCXXXIII)



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(CCXXXIII) directs, that the king shall enforce payment of a debt proved by evidence to be justly demandable from the debtor. That text has been already expounded.

BUT when a debtor denies a just debt, MENU declares, that the king shall enforce payment to the creditor of what is proved by evidence, and exact a fine from the debtor.

#### CCLXIV.

MENU:—IN a suit for a debt, which the defendant denies, let him (*the king*) award payment to the creditor of what, by good evidence, he shall prove due, and exact a small fine, *according to the circumstances of the debtor.*

“ WHICH the defendant denies ;” which he disowns.

*The Retnācara.*

IN a suit for a debt, which the debtor denies, affirming, that he owes him nothing.

CULLÚ'CABHATTA

CONSEQUENTLY the debtor, who affirms that he owes nothing, the king shall compel to pay to the creditor what shall be proved due by oral testimony and so forth.

THE king shall exact a small fine, because the defendant denied a just debt.

*The Retnācara.*

CULLÚ'CABHATTA states, ‘ according to the circumstances of the debtor.’ For instance; in a case of denial, the king shall exact, according to the circumstances of the man, a less fine than the full amercement of twice the amount of the debt, which will be mentioned.

VRĪHASPATĪ has directed a fine on the creditor who enforces payment of a debt not proved by evidence, ordaining that “ he, who constrains a



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debtor exempted from such constraint, shall be fined according to law." What sort of fine should be imposed? MENU replies to that question.

### CCLXV.

MENU:—IN the double of that sum, which the defendant falsely denies, or on which the complainant falsely declares, shall those two men, wilfully offending against justice, be fined by the king.

THE defendant, who denies the debt, offending intentionally, or the claimant who prefers a false claim for so much money, shall be fined in twice the amount contested; because these two men, the debtor and creditor, offend against justice.

*The Retnācara.*

A QUESTION here occurs for discussion: the expression used by VRĪHASPATI, "he, who constrains &c." signifies one who takes measures adapted to the recovery of the sum. The same is here signified by the expression, "that sum, on which the complainant falsely declares;" for a false claim in these words, "pay my debt, which is due from thee," is a measure adapted to the recovery of the sum. Now, if a man only declares falsely on the sum, and does not proceed to the actual recovery of it, he shall be fined in double that sum; but, if he proceed to the utmost length, the amercement is no greater: which is a disparity in the law. If this be alleged, the answer is, that the derivation of the term, "who constrains," suggests one, who takes measures adapted to the recovery of debts; it does not necessarily signify the utmost process. Hence VRĪHASPATI and MENU concur: and whether or not a greater fine should be exacted if the false demand be enforced, may be discussed under the title of fines. But here another fine (that is a fine on the debtor) is incidentally propounded by MENU.

THIS text, ordaining a fine equal to double the amount contested, must be understood of the case, where the debt is denied knowing it to be just, or claimed knowing it to be false. Such is the opinion of CULLU'CA-BHATTA.

CCLXVI.





YĀJNYAWALCYA:—SHOULD a debt, *which was* denied, be proved by evidence, the defendant must pay the sum and an equal fine to the king; and he, who prefers a false claim, must pay twice the sum, which he demanded.

“DENIED;” disowned: if the debtor affirm, “I owe it not.” Should that debt be proved or established by the evidence of witnesses or the like, he must pay a fine to the king equal to the debt contested. But, if a false claim be preferred, the claimant must pay a fine to the king equal to twice the sum, for which he sued.

THIS text of YĀJNYAWALCYA, prescribing a fine on the debtor equal to the amount of the debt, must be adduced when there is no intentional offence. There is not any inconsistency.

The *Retnācara*.

CONSEQUENTLY there is in fact no variance between CULLŪCABHATTA and the *Retnācara*; for the intentional offence can only be the conscious affirmation of a falsehood.

SOME hold, that, since the person, who shall receive the sum, is not mentioned in the text of MENU (literally translated, “those two men, wilfully offending against justice, shall be forced to pay a fine *equal to* double that sum”), the meaning of the precept, that the debtor shall be forced to pay twice the sum, is, that he shall pay the sum in question to the creditor, and a fine of the same amount to the king. Consequently a fine on the debtor, equal to twice the sum contested, is not ordained; the creditor alone shall pay a fine equal to double the sum contested, if he prefer a false claim: and this also coincides with the text of YĀJNYAWALCYA; for both direct, that in whatever case a fine equal to the debt shall be paid by the debtor, in a similar case twice the sum must be paid by the creditor.

THAT cannot be; for it is unreasonable to impose a double fine for an equal offence.





## CCLXVII.

CATYA'YANA : — ANY creditor, who harasses a debtor appealing to judicature, shall forfeit that claim and pay an equal fine.

It should not be argued from the coincidence of this text of CATYA'YANA cited in the *Mitācśharā*, that a fine equal to double the sum intends the forfeiture of the sum claimed and an equal fine. Were it so, the fine would not be double, since one of the constituent parts of *that multiple* would have no existence. The last hemistich in the text of YĀJNYAWALKYA must be understood as relating to the conscious exhibition of a false claim. Accordingly

## CCLXVIII.

YAMA declares : — If a rich debtor, through dishonest perverseness, pay not his debt, the king shall compel him to discharge it, and may take from him twice the sum *as a fine*.

THEREFORE, exacting from the debtor twice the amount of the debt as a fine, the king shall compel him to pay it, namely the debt ; for that must be supplied. But, if he begin by denying the debt, though conscious of owing it, and afterwards, being brought into court, acknowledge the debt before the writing or other evidence be produced, he shall only be fined in a sum equal to the debt ; for half the fine in question is ordained when *the defendant* himself acknowledges the debt.

## CCLXIX.

VYĀSA : — AFTER denying the claim, should the party himself acknowledge the due, it is considered as a *tardy* acknowledgement, and the fine ordained is half of that, *which is imposed in the case of obstinate denial*.

Of that fine, which is imposed in the case of obstinate denial. By parity of reasoning, should he acknowledge it in court upon reflection, though previously unconscious of the debt, the fine shall be half the debt in question.



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THIS text of YĀJNYAWALKYA, though not inserted in most copies under the title of loans, is inserted in this place, because it has been quoted by CHANDĒSWARA, and corresponds with texts of MENU and others.

CCLXX.

VYĀSA:—THE claimant shall pay twice the sum, for which he preferred a false claim :

2. The rule shall be the same, in respect of either party who may be confuted, if a consideration be *especially* pleaded ; and likewise in respect of either party who may be cast, should a former decision be alleged.

“ A CONSIDERATION ; ” a special cause.

The *Retnācara*.

THE following text explains a special cause.

CCLXXI.

NĀREDA:—WHEN the defendant acknowledges the *receipt of the sum*, as declared by the plaintiff, but alleges a consideration, it is deemed a special plea (*pratyavaśanda*).

THE defendant, or debtor, acknowledges the receipt of *the sum*, but answers, “ it is true I received the money, but it was given by thee as a gratification for the accomplishment of thine own business.” In this case also the rule is the same ; either party being cast, whether he be claimant or defendant, shall be fined in twice the amount. For instance ; at the close of the suit, if the gift of the sum as a gratification be proved, the claimant shall be fined in twice the amount ; if the debt be proved, the debtor *shall be fined in the same amercement*. CĀTYĀYANA has explained *the plea of prior decision*.

CCLXXII.

CĀTYĀYANA:—IF a man, though cast at law, revive the suit, he should be considered as one previously confuted,



and is called an appellant from a former decision (*prān-nyāya*).

FOR instance ; a creditor, cast in a suit formerly instituted before one umpire, again declares before another judge, " this man is my debtor." That claimant should be answered by the defendant with this plea ; " he has been already cast by me : " and that plaintiff is called an appellant from decision, or one whose suit has been already decided. In that case, whoever is cast, shall be fined ; whether the claimant be cast, or the defendant, in consequence of the former decision appearing to be unjust, or on other grounds. " Likewise ; " that is, he shall be fined in double the sum.

#### CCLXXIII.

MENU :—A DEBT being admitted by the defendant, he must pay five in the hundred, *as a fine to the king* ; but, if it be denied *and proved*, twice as much : this law was enacted by MENU.

THIS text is expounded by CULLUCABHATTA, CHANDĒSWARA and others, as relating to fines. Consequently, a debt being first disowned, but afterwards voluntarily admitted by the debtor, on his being merely brought into court, he must pay an amercement of five in the hundred, or a twentieth part of the debt. But if it be denied, and the debtor persist in disowning it even in court, and it be proved with much trouble by a writing or by the evidence of witnesses or the like, *he must pay* twice as much, or ten in the hundred. CULLUCABHATTA concurs in this exposition.

ON the subject of the first hemistich, NĀREDA propounds a law,

#### CCLXXIV.

NĀREDA :—BUT, if a rich debtor, through dishonest perverseness, pay not his debt, the king may take only a twentieth part of the sum, *if circumstances be very favourable to the debtor, or if he acknowledge the debt in court.*



THAT sum, which a rich debtor withholds through dishonest perverseness, the king shall compel him to pay to his creditor, and may himself take, as a fine, a sum amounting to a twentieth part of the debt : and this must be understood, when the debtor voluntarily confesses the debt in court ; for it corresponds with the text of MENU ordaining five in the hundred.

AND this alternative in respect of moderate fines should be regulated by the qualities of the debtor, his class, and his circumstances.

The *Retnâcara*.

ON the subject of the last hemistich, YA'JNYAWALCYA propounds a rule.

CCLXXV.

YA'JNYAWALCYA :—A DEBTOR shall be forced to pay to the king ten in the hundred of the sum proved against him ; and the creditor, having received the sum due, must pay five in the hundred *towards defraying the charges of judicature*.

THE sum being proved, the debtor shall be forced to pay ten in the hundred, as a fine to the king, making good that amercement out of his own funds. The very same gloss is delivered in the *Dîpacalicâ* ; and this must be acknowledged as the opinion entertained by the author of the *Mitâcsharâ*. It concerns the denial of a debt ; for it coincides with the text of MENU, “ if it be denied, twice as much ” (CCLXXIII).

THE last part of the text of YA'JNYAWALCYA conveys this sense ; the creditor also, having recovered his debt awarded by the king, must pay five in the hundred or a twentieth part to him, as wages, *or towards defraying the charges of judicature*.

A MAN, subject to amercement under these texts, shall be forced to pay double the debt, a sum equal to the debt, or ten in the hundred, the fine being mitigated according to the degree of virtue he possesses, or other circumstances



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circumstances taken into consideration. This is declared. But if the debtor, coming into court, confess the debt, he shall only be forced to pay half as much. This is also declared. Consequently a priest, a virtuous soldier or the like, and a very indigent debtor, must pay five in the hundred; but, if he persist in his denial even in court, ten in the hundred; for this conduct is supposed to be preceded by knowledge of the fact: but, if he were unconscious, half as much. In general, a rich soldier and the like shall be fined in a sum equal to the debt, or in half that amercement, according to circumstances as abovementioned, if he deny the debt through ignorance; but twice as much, if he were conscious of owing the sum.

ON this subject CHANDE'SWARA has said in his gloss on the last hemistich of the text (CCLXXIII), 'he shall be fined in twice as much as is the amount of the debt.' That is liable to objection; for it would be a vain repetition of the double sum mentioned in another text of MENU (CCLXV).

IN like manner should the various fines on the creditor, in the case of a false claim, be regulated according to class and so forth. NĀREDA mentions a distinction in respect of the servile class.

#### CCLXXVI.

NĀREDA: SHOULD the sons of twice-born men by women of the servile class advance false claims, let the king cause their tongues to be drawn *forth* and pierced with a sharp instrument.

As for the following opinion, we think, it appears inadmissible, because it is unauthorized by CHANDESWARA, VĀCHESPATI, SŪLAPAṆI, CULUCABHATTA, and BHAVADĒVA.

THE phrase in the text of YĀJNYAWALKYA (CCLXXV), which is explained "shall be forced to pay by the king," being adduced in reply to the question arising on the preceding text (CCLXXVIII),\* 'by whom shall

\* IN the code of YĀJNYAWALKYA, the verse CCLXXVIII immediately precedes the verse CCLXXV (See YĀJNYAWALKYA, Ch. 2, v. 41 and 42).



he be forced to pay his debts in the order, in which they were contracted ? there is in fact a *necessary* repetition. Or the first text (CCLXXVIII) relates to the case of two or more creditors, but this text (CCLXXV) supposes the case of a single creditor. Hence the creditor, having received the sum due, must pay five or ten in the hundred, since it is a rule, that 'an alternative is admitted in law, if a question can be proposed, *which is thereby satisfied*;' he must pay either five or ten in the hundred : such is the alternative, and that is settled in practice. For instance ; if the creditor must pay five in the hundred when the debt is confessed to be due, *then*, should the debtor confess it in court, but, through dishonest perverseness, pay it not, the king, enforcing payment, shall take from the creditor, towards defraying the charges of judicature, five in the hundred, that is a twentieth part of the debt, as directed by MENU, YĀJNYAWALCYA, and NĀREDA, concurring in the same precept (CCLXXIII, CCLXXV, and CCLXXIV). If the debt be denied, and the defendant plead in the king's court, " I owe nothing," the king may exact twice as much or ten in the hundred, that is a tenth part, as authorized by MENU and YĀJNYAWALCYA (CCLXXIII and CCLXXV) : and the expression in the text of YĀJNYAWALCYA, " of the sum proved or recovered," is properly put in the fifth case ; and the terms, " through dishonest perverseness," in the text of NĀREDA, are also pertinent : for, on any other construction, there could be no fine of a twentieth part imposed on the debtor ; and it would be improper to exact *no greater fine than* a twentieth part, since he is stated as acting willfully, through dishonest perverseness. What then is the import of the following rule of VISHNU ; for he mentions, as a fine, the tenth part *to be paid* to the king ?

#### CCLXXVII.

VISHNU :—If a creditor sue before the king and fully prove his demand, the debtor shall pay, as a fine to the king, a tenth part of the sum proved ; and the plaintiff, having received the sum due, shall pay a twentieth part of it *towards defraying the charges of judicature*.

THIS can be no objection ; for CHANDĒSWARA describes, as a secondary



fine, the sum which must be paid by the creditor : ' although the creditor be void of offence, the king may exact, as a fine, a twentieth part of the sum for enforcing payment of it.' Consequently the debtor must pay the sum in the presence of the king, and discharge the debt due to his creditor ; and the creditor, having received his due, must pay, as a fine, the tenth or twentieth part of the sum : such is the construction *according to this opinion*.\* But we hold it proper to reject this interpretation for the reason abovementioned.

OTHERS quote the *Dīpacalīkā*, that ' the various fines should be regulated by other texts of law, according to the existence or non-existence of an unmitigated offence.' From a creditor of the priestly class, five or ten in the hundred cannot be taken without offence ; for it is declared by MISRA, that the property of a priest should on no account be taken by the king ; and it is forbidden in the *Mahābhārata*, when treating of the duties of kings, and on other occasions, to take wealth from *Brāhmanas*. But punishment may be inflicted on *Brāhmanas* ; for the punishment of mutilation, such as cutting off the hand, is mentioned in the dialogue between SANC'HA and LIC'HITA contained in the *Mahābhārata* ; and the jewel, which he wore on his head, was taken from AS'WAT'HA'MAN : accordingly the gem, yielded by AS'WAT'HA'MAN, is mentioned in the first book of the *Mahābhārata*.

The *Srī Bhāgavata* :—*Ignominious* tonsure, confiscation of effects, and banishment from the realm, are the punish-

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\* To understand the comment, it may be requisite to state the texts as they would be translated, were this interpretation received.

CCLXXIII.

A debt being admitted by the defendant, he (the plaintiff) must pay five in the hundred ; but, if it be denied, twice as much.

CCLXXIV.

But, if a rich debtor, through dishonest perverseness, pay not his debt, the king may take only a twentieth part of the sum *from the creditor*.

CCLXXV.

A debtor shall be forced to pay by the king : and out of the sum proved and recovered, the creditor, who receives his due, must pay ten or five in the hundred, *according to circumstances*.



ments of reputed priests ;\* no other corporal punishment or pecuniary penalty is allowed.

“ TONSURE ;” shaving the hair. “ Confiscation of effects ;” seizure of property. “ Banishment from the realm ;” expulsion from the country. This has been sufficiently explained ; and it has been *here* mentioned merely for the sake of illustration.

IN a matter of debt or the like, the demand should be proved by the evidence of witnesses and so forth ; but if that be impracticable, by ordeal : if popular proof can be obtained, there shall be no recourse to ordeal. This will be elucidated under the title of administration of justice.

SHOULD there be many creditors of the same debtor, to whom shall his due be first paid, to whom last ?

#### CCLXXVIII.

YĀJNYAWALKYA:—A DEBTOR shall be forced to pay his creditors in the order, in which the debts were contracted, after first discharging those of a priest or of the king.

ON the competition of several creditors, a *Bráhmāna*, a *Cshatriya* and so forth, the debt of the *Bráhmāna* shall be first paid ; and afterwards the rest, in their order as they were contracted. That is, the sum, which was first lent, shall be first paid ; that, which was next lent, shall be next discharged : such is the sense of the text. The debts shall not be liquidated by a distribution of proportionate shares of the debtor's assets ; nor shall the priority or subsequence of the debt due to the *Bráhmāna* be examined : for the law does not direct it. But, should there be several creditors of the priestly class, the order, in which the debts were contracted, must be admitted.

ON the competition of a *Cshatriya* and a *Vaisya*, the debt of the *Cshatriya* shall be first paid, and next that of the *Vaisya* ; for YĀJNYAWALKYA says,

\* Literally, kinsmen of BRAHMĀ ; by which must be understood priests by birth, yet not strictly observing the duties of their class.



“after discharging those of the king.”\* Again; on a similar competition of a *Vaiśya* and a *Sūdra*, the debt of the *Vaiśya* shall be first discharged, and next that of the *Sūdra*. In like manner should a triple succession be admitted in regard to creditors of mixed classes, ranking in three degrees, highest, middlemost and lowest: and, should a creditor of the servile tribe claim with one of a mixed class, the same should be understood according to circumstances of *relative precedence*.

ON this subject CHANDĒSWARA says, ‘should there be at once creditors of various classes, the priest shall be first paid, and next the foldier and the rest; but, if the creditors be of the same class, the debts must be paid in the order, in which they were contracted.’ By saying, ‘if they be of the same class,’ it is evidently meant, that the order of the classes should be taken, if many debts be due to men of different classes. The same meaning is expressed in the gloss of the *Mitācśharā*; ‘if the creditors be of equal class, ‘the debtor shall be compelled by the king to pay the debts in the same order in which they were contracted; but, if there be variance of class, in the ‘order of *the classes*, sacerdotal and the rest.’ For “the order, in which the debts were contracted,” is there applied to the case of equal class; and the order of classes, sacerdotal and the rest, is there prescribed in the case of unequal class. There is no difficulty in supposing the same meaning in the gloss of the *Dīpācalicā*; ‘should there be more creditors than one, the debtor shall be forced to pay the debts in the order, in which they were contracted; ‘but if there be at once creditors of the priestly and military class, and ‘so forth, he shall be forced to pay the sums due to the *Cśhatriya* and the ‘rest, after first discharging the debt of the *Brāhmaṇa* even though last ‘contracted.’

#### CCLXXIX.

CA'TYA'YANA:—If there be many debts at once, that, which was first contracted, shall first be paid, after those of a king or of a priest learned in the *Vēda*.†

\* Which may be understood generally of the military class.

† “But when the effects are few, the creditors numerous, and the debtor is sold into slavery, all shall receive *their shares* of the price, in proportion to their just demands, because there are not assets.” I cite this passage from the *Vivāda Chandra* because it contains a rule affirmed by the *Mait'hila* school, and extended to the case where the debtor's effects only are sold.



“ Of a priest learned in the *Vēda* ;” after the debt of a *Brāhmaṇa*. “ Of a king ;” of a *Cshatriya*. This text is also intended to show a case of preferable payment in the order of the classes. It must therefore be understood in the same sense as above mentioned.

CCLXXX.

CA'TYA'YANA:—IF all the contracts were written in one day, the debts, payment, subsisting demand, and interest, shall be equal ; otherwise, in order of time.

FROM the expression “ in one day ” it appears, that no account should be taken of the priority and subsequence of several debts contracted on the same day : else the text would be nearly unmeaning. Consequently the construction of the phrase is this ; if the contracts were written in one day, that is, if debts, contracted with many persons, were reduced to writing in one day, payment, subsisting demand, and interest, shall be equal in respect of those debts. Therefore collecting all the assets of the debtor, which are forthcoming, the creditors should divide them in shares proportionate to the amount of their respective debts. A distribution of shares proportionate to the amount of the debts may be thus exemplified : ten *suvernas* are due to one, two to another, and four to a third, but the assets of the debtor amount to eight *suvernas* only ; in this case half a *suverna* shall be received for each *suverna* ; and he, to whom ten *suvernas* are due, shall receive five *suvernas* ; he, to whom four *suvernas* are due, two *suvernas* and he, to whom two *suvernas* are due, one *suverna*. But it must be understood, that in this case the principal and interest are added together. Hence, if one have a claim for interest specially stipulated or the like ; and the other, for legal interest only ; the interest being unequal, the payment to each shall be regulated by the interest receivable by him. But if some part of the interest have been received by any one creditor, that shall not be required from him, but it shall be deducted from his debt. However, in the case of interest by enjoyment, the principal only shall be admitted in the account. For instance ; the principal sum amounts with interest to ten *suvernas*, and two *suvernas* have been received on a former day ; the remaining eight *suvernas* only shall be admitted



mitted on a subsequent day when a dividend is made : the two *suvernas*, received on a former day, shall not be confounded with the debtor's assets, for that debtor has no title to money actually received by the creditor. But afterwards he shall not have enjoyment of the whole *pledge*, for the debt is lessened in comparison with the former due. Nor shall the creditors divide that pledge, since it is possessed by one creditor alone. In fact the creditor, who has received a pledge to be used, shall not receive a share of the dividend ; for he has trusted to the chattel possessed by him for the recovery of his debt. He also, who has a pledge for custody in his power, such as a copper caldron or the like, shall have no share of the dividend ; but he may demand the sale of the pledge. Yet, if the debtor or any other person say, " this man has in his possession a chattel belonging to the debtor, let it be sold and shared by all the creditors," that shall not be done ; for the debtor cannot sell a chattel possessed by the creditor, and the debtor's title *to the pledge* is at that time limited. It is the same also in other cases. In short, ascertaining and writing down the debts of all *the creditors* with the interest due on them, a distribution of the debtor's assets should be made.

ALL this should only be done when the term has elapsed. Hence, if debts be contracted with several persons in one day, and the term of one loan be two years ; of another, four years ; of a third, five years ; in this case, should a distribution be made at the close of the fourth year, no dividend shall be received by him, who claims under a contract for the term of five years : for his claim is weaker, since the term is unexpired. If he be so fortunate, as that the debtor should survive and acquire wealth, then shall that debt be discharged. Should a further distribution of assets be made after the expiration of the fifth year, he shall receive an equal dividend in proportion to the debts then due : the whole assets, or a larger share, shall not be received by the creditor, who received no dividend at the former distribution ; for no law ordains it. This and other points may be argued.

BUT, if the debts of all the creditors be not fully discharged, they may preserve their claim for the remainder. This also must assuredly be proportionate to the *original* debts, *since the dividend was so*. Therefore the legisla-



tor adds, "subsisting demand," or literally preservation; the term is synonymous with the owing of the debtor.\*

If the debtor's assets only suffice for the discharge of interest due to all the creditors or to any one of them, then interest only shall be received, but the principal shall bear no further interest. However, when, in consequence of a term having been stipulated, a distribution of assets is made before the period which would regularly double the debt, it may bear further interest after the dividend. Therefore the sage adds, "and interest." It is *also* the practice, for a creditor not to accept *payment* of his principal, while interest remains due. It follows, that, if debts have been contracted with two or more creditors on one day, a preference being then disallowed, if the debtor cannot fully discharge all the debts, whatever assets are found, shall be taken by all the creditors, and their further demand may be retained; or the interest may be received *and the principal remain due*.

THIS may be observed; if he, by whom no term was stipulated, demand the debt, a dividend shall be paid to him; if he do not demand it, but the period, in which a debt is doubled, be past, the debtor should call him and pay the sum. In like manner, should the term of any man's loan be expired, the debtor should call him. But, if any creditor be absent in a foreign country, his dividend should be deposited with a confidential person. Such is the full meaning of the law.

THE following text propounds a distinction.

CCLXXXI.

CĀTYĀYANA:—THAT capital, on which it is proved, that the assets were gained, and no other debt, must be repaid by the debtor *out of those assets*.

If there be at once many creditors of the sacerdotal and other classes, he, through whose loan the assets were gained, must be paid out of those assets;

\* This exposition appears unsatisfactory; *rac/pan'a* is synonymous with *d'hāraṇa* in some senses, not in all. Sir W. JONES translated it "profits of a pledge or the like." Nevertheless, I follow the gloss.



not any other creditor. Should a surplus remain, it shall be paid to the other creditors by a dividend or in the order of classes. For example; borrowing a sum from one man, and therewith paying the revenue, which is due to the king by the custom of the country, or supporting his own dependants and the like, the debtor conducts agriculture; the produce of that culture is applicable to the payment of the debt due to that creditor alone. But if he borrow money from another man, and during the season of culture perform other work to avoid idleness, that loan must also be considered as applied to husbandry, *which was his chief employment*: and such is the practice. But a debt contracted for the charges of celebrating nuptials or the like, even though it be contracted on the same day, constitutes a weaker claim in respect of wealth acquired by agriculture, since it was not applied to that purpose.

AGAIN; in the case of commerce and the like, assets, gained by traffick and similar means, are applicable to the payment of the creditor claiming a debt contracted for the purchase of goods, for the discharge of the king's duties, for the maintenance of servants and so forth. In like manner, borrowing a sum from one man, he redeems a pledge hypothecated to another; in that case, should the debt remain undischarged, he must deliver or sell that pledge for the payment of that creditor and no other: he has no right to pledge the chattel to any other man. Again; a husbandman cultivates land belonging to a certain person; and the landlord borrows money from the husbandman, or the husbandman from his landlord; in either case, the debt of that creditor alone shall be discharged out of the grain produced from that land: for those assets, consisting in grain, were produced from that capital, whether land, or seed and plough. Such is the consistent method of CHANDESWARA and the rest.

HOWEVER, should he deliver those assets to another person through mistake, or hypothecate that pledge to another creditor, the act is valid; for the assets were the property of the debtor. Nevertheless, the creditor may forbid it; and, if the debtor flight that opposition, he shall be fined. In like manner, even though unopposed, if he do so deliberately, he shall be fined; for the reason of the law is the same. This should also be argued in the case



of payment *to a favoured creditor*, neglecting the order, in which the debts were contracted, or the order of classes.

HERE a question occurs for consideration. If the landlord or the husbandman abovementioned first borrowed money from another, pledging to him the produce of the land for that year, and afterwards receive a loan from the husbandman or landlord, in that case who shall be paid out of that produce? To this question it is answered, the whole shall not be paid to the last creditor; for, were it so, there could be no such practice in moneylending as that of pledging the produce of land owned or cultivated by another; nor *shall it be paid* to the first creditor, for the text would be almost unmeaning, since no loan would be made without a pledge, lest a subsequent hypothecation *invalidate the prior lien*. To this it may be replied, since the subsequent loan had not taken place when the pledge was made, there can be no such lien on the land; the hypothecation is therefore valid, and a subsequent loan cannot annul the valid hypothecation and establish such a lien: it is therefore reasonable, that the debt of the mortgagee should alone be discharged. However, the second creditor resists the disposal of the produce, until his own debt be paid. This many excellent persons maintain. We hold, that an hypothecation, subsequent to such a debt *which gave a lien*, is not valid; and the text therefore is not unmeaning. But some lawyers say, the text of CAṬYAYANA (CCLXXXI) should be otherwise applied. A lien immediately arises on that produce, similar to a pledge; since there is no authority for a reference to the *time of* contracting the debt. Hence the last creditor should alone be paid. But, if the mortgagee, *at first* declaring "I will not lend the sum," *at length* accepts the pledge with the assent of the other party, the hypothecation is valid.

THE distribution of *dividends* should be made in the presence of the king's officers, or of arbitrators, to remove the apprehension of unmitigated offence; the debtor should not make the distribution in the privacy of his own house. This has been sufficiently discussed.

#### CCLXXXII.

YAJNYAWALKYA:—WHEN the debtor has paid the debt, let  
5 D him



him cause his writing to be torn, or another to be made as his acquittance; but a debt, contracted before witnesses, must be discharged before witnesses.

WHEN the debt is fully discharged, let the debtor cause the writing to be torn. But, if the note be missing, let him cause another writing to be made as his acquittance. A debt contracted before witnesses he should discharge before witnesses.

The *Dīpācalicā*.

HE should cause the writing to be so torn or cancelled, that it may not be again produced on another occasion. But, if the writing were attested, the payment should be made, and the deed cancelled, before witnesses; for such is the import of the text, "a debt, contracted before witnesses &c.:" else it might be suspected, that the debt was undischarged. "As his acquittance;" the term is in the seventh case with a causal sense. Let him cause another writing to be made; namely that, which is denominated a written discharge or acknowledgement of payment. This also should be attested or be made in the creditor's own handwriting; as suggested by a text cited in the *Vyavahāra tatva* and already quoted in this work (XIII).

THE form of the writing should be regulated by the established custom of the country, and it has been already mentioned in the discussion on written contracts of debt: the very same form should be admitted in the present case; for it is directed generally, that "whatever contract shall have been concluded by mutual consent," a written memorial of it should be executed in that form (XVI). But, since that text is placed under the title of loans and deposits, the name of the lender or owner is directed to be first inserted in the writing: here the reverse should be done; for the word lender there intends the person whom the obligation regards; that is, him, to whom the writing is delivered. Hence in a deed of gift the name of the donee should be first inserted; or in a bill of sale, the name of the vendee. This and other points may be argued. But in fact, says a certain author, the debtor is at that time an owner *delivering his own*; for he differs



in nothing from one, who delivers property. Hence the variation consists in this; that the debtor's name should be first inserted, because the debtor is the person, whom the obligation regards. The creditor should sign his name on the top of the writing;\* for the word "borrower," in the text of YAJÑYAWALKYA (XVIII), intends the person, who executes the writing. This and other points should be understood.

CCLXXXIII.

VISHNU:— A DEBT, contracted only before witnesses, may be discharged before witnesses only; *but* a written contract being fulfilled, the writing should be torn.

" BEFORE witnesses only;" else, if the payment be unattested, how can the debtor prove that payment, when the creditor subsequently sues before the king for the debt proved by verbal or other evidence?

CCLXXXIV.

NĀREDA:— LET the creditor give a writing after the debt has been acquitted; or, if that cannot be, let him make a *publick* acknowledgment: this shall be a mutual acquittance of the creditor and debtor.

LET him give a writing, that is, a written discharge, if the note be not at hand. " After the debt has been acquitted;" after it has been fully discharged. " A publick acknowledgment;" a declaration made before *unconcerned* persons, that the debt has been paid by this man.

The *Retnācara*.

CONSEQUENTLY, if a written acquittance cannot be given, the payment should only be made before witnesses. Should no writing be given, nor attestation made, the debtor might complain before the king, *in these words*, " he has exacted from me more than was due;" or, " he refuses to give a receipt." Hence the creditor also would need an acquittance; it is therefore said, " a mutual acquittance or release."

\* There is an inconsistency, in regard to the place of signature, which I cannot well reconcile:



WHEN the whole sum is not paid, but a part only, how should the bond be cancelled ? For this cause YA'JNYAWALCYA adds *the following rule.*

CCLXXXV.

YA'JNYAWALCYA : — If the debtor pay by little and little, let him write the sums paid on the back of his written contract, or let the creditor give a receipt signed by his own hand.

“ A RECEIPT ; ” a written acknowledgment of a sum received.

The *Retnācara*.

LET him write, “ such a sum this day received by me, in part hereof, from such one, the debtor.” But the form must be regulated by the *current* practice alone. In his receipt should be written the sum which is paid, and the date on which that very sum is paid : he may subjoin sums previously received. Thus, he should write, “ so much money received this day, such sums received earlier, making in all such a sum *received to this date.*” Else, through the forgetfulness of his creditor, the debtor might in course of time obtain several receipts for a single payment ; or, although that have not been done, the creditor might allege, that it was done. This distinction appears admissible in our apprehension.

FROM the phrase, “ let the debtor write the sums paid &c.” it appears, that the debtor alone should write the sums paid by himself on the back of the written contract : but the receipt should be written by the creditor ; for the phrase “ signed by himself ” may be properly referred to the creditor.

CCLXXXVI.

VISHNU : — PART only being paid, and the writing not being at hand, let the creditor give an acquittance written by himself.

“ PART only being paid ; ” the whole amount of principal and interest not being fully discharged ; (for instance, a distressed debtor, unable to pay the



the whole sum at once, pays it by little and little, from time to time;) in this case, the debtor should write the sums paid by him on the back of the written contract; or, the deed not being at hand, the creditor should give another writing to this effect, "this sum has been received by me." Such is the sense.

BUT, if the writing be not at hand, then, even if the whole due be discharged, the creditor must give a writing signed by himself; therefore does the legislator express, "and the writing not being at hand." Or the noting of partial payments on the back of the bond, as mentioned by YA'JNYA-WALCYA, and the acquittance signed by the creditor himself, as mentioned by VISHNU, admit of two cases: if the writing be, or be not, at hand, and the debt be fully or partially discharged, the creditor should give an acquittance signed by himself. Herein CHANDE'SWARA concurs: or the exposition may be thus; if the writing be at hand, and a partial payment be made, it should be noted on the back of the bond, and a separate receipt should be also given, agreeably to the texts of both sages. Should the creditor subsequently affirm, "this debtor obtained the writing by artifice from my house, and has written sums on it, though never paid," that assertion may be easily confuted.

If the creditor produce not the writing, nor give one signed by himself for a sum received, what shall be done? On this subject NA'REDA propounds the following text.

#### CCLXXXVII.

NA'REDA:—HAVING received a sum, the creditor should give a receipt to the debtor; but he, who refuses, when required, to give back that, *for which he granted no receipt*, shall forfeit the remainder of the debt.

"HAVING received" the interest; such is the meaning. He, who refuses both to give an acquittance and repay the interest when demanded, &c.

The Retnacara.

"INTEREST"



"INTEREST" is here supplied. The term signifies the interest of the debt. But, in fact, that is merely intended for elucidation; the real sense is an incomplete payment. The use of supplying that term is this; when a part of the principal has been paid to the creditor, and he neither gives up the writing *that the payment may be noted*, nor grants a receipt; in that case, even though the creditor may be disposed to repay it, the debtor does not demand the sum paid; for, *were it repaid to the debtor*, the sum would bear further interest from that day. Should a creditor, who has received a sum from the debtor, neither permit him to write the sum paid on the back of the contract, nor give the debtor a receipt signed by himself, surely the debtor will redemand the sum paid by him *as interest*; if the creditor also refuse to restore it, he shall forfeit the remainder of his debt. The forfeiture of the balance is, as it were, a fine on the creditor for that offence.

CCLXXXVIII.

VRĪHASPATI: — If he, who has recovered his debt by the mode of moral duty or any of the others, refuse to write a receipt on the note, or to give an acquittance, the sum, that was due, shall be forfeited.

THAT creditor, who has enforced payment of his debt by the mode of moral duty, or any of the others abovementioned, but will not permit the debtor to write the sum paid on the back of the note, or, if this were impracticable, who refuses to give a receipt, which is the next step, *shall incur this forfeiture*. 'Through knavery' should be supplied in the text. It also intends attestation as mentioned by NĀREDA: the full meaning is, if he also refuse an attestation of the payment. In these cases, the sum due to the creditor would be forfeited: the mood is potential. Because the sum, which has been actually paid, cannot be proved by the debtor without a writing or other evidence; hence, since he may be liable to pay it again, the creditor may possibly receive more than his just due: such is the sense of the text. Consequently, over-exactions being improper, nothing should be done which tends thereto. But if any one do that, which ought not to be done, he shall surely be punished. This is intimated in the text of VRĪHASPATI. It is therefore absolutely necessary to write the sum



on the back of the note, or grant a receipt or the like: such is the full sense of the text; and punishment consists in the forfeiture of the balance, as ordained by NĀREDA. Since no law directs it, the fine shall not be received by the king. This exposition of the text of VRĪHASPATI, though not delivered by any former author, seems elegant.

HERE the term employed (*vriddhi*) \* signifies loss or forfeiture.

The *Calpateru*.

FOR the verb *vardh* is inserted in the *Ganacāmadbhenu* with the sense of fill, and cut; and this word is derived by the substitution of *vr̥dh* for *vardh*, a change which often occurs with this suffix. Or the verb *vr̥dh*, representing the verb *vardh*, as well as its own regular sense of growth or increase, through that medium presents the secondary sense of abscission, which is the regular meaning of the verb *vardh*; as the term *dwirēpha* (two rs.) signifies a black bee through the medium of the word *bbaramara* (which contains two rs.); and the verb *ās*, fit, preceded by the particle *upa*, signifies adoration or worship in the following verse of the *Cusumānjali*, a treatise of philosophy; †

HE, the supreme spirit, is here described, the worship (*upāsti*) of whom wise men consider as the road to heaven and final beatitude.

CONSEQUENTLY, if the creditor, through knavery, do not permit the sum to be written on the note, nor give a receipt, nor cause his acknowledgment to be attested by witnesses, he shall forfeit the sum, that was due, namely the sum lent by him: and the forfeiture must be understood, as in the text of NĀREDA, to be the forfeiture of the balance.

THE *Cāmadbhenu* and HELĀYUDHA read *nāsau vr̥ddhim avāpnuyat*, he shall not receive advantage, instead of *tasya tad vr̥ddhim āpnuyat*. HELĀYUDHA says in his gloss; ‘if the creditor, having received a small part of the debt, do

\* Taking the word in its usual acceptance of interest, Sir WILLIAM JONES translated the text, “the debtor shall gain the interest, that was due.”

† By UDAYANĀCHARYA; a treatise written to prove the existence of God, contested by the Atheists of his day.



‘not suffer the sum to be written on the back of the note, nor give a receipt, then, since he forfeits the remaining sum, he receives no interest or advantage on it: for that is prevented by the forfeiture of the balance.’ In effect there is no variance between the *Calpateru* and *HELĀYUDHA*.

THE refusal to write a receipt, or give an acquittance for the sum paid, must be understood as arising from an intention of obtaining a second payment of the same sum: for, otherwise, there would be an inconsistency.

The *Retnācara*.

‘Do not suffer the sum to be written on the note;’ “by the debtor” should be supplied.

THE creditor lends money solely for the sake of gain; and by that gain or interest he receives an advantage on his principal. Should even the remaining principal be forfeited, how can he obtain advantage from the principal sum. Consequently, by declaring that he has no advantage from the sum due, the forfeiture of the remainder is, in some sort, indirectly suggested; since the text coincides with that of *NA’REDA*. ‘For that is prevented by the forfeiture of the balance;’ this is a repetition intended to suggest the penalty as the *immediate* cause of *his* obtaining no advantage. Or that gloss may be read, ‘for the forfeiture of the balance is the subject treated;’ that is, it has become the subject through the text of *NA’REDA*. ‘He shall not receive advantage,’ suggests the penalty of losing the remaining sum; therefore does the commentator say, ‘for the forfeiture of the balance is the subject &c.’ Such is the exposition of the *Calpateru* and *HELĀYUDHA*.

ACCORDING to the *Cāmadbhēnu*, the forfeiture of interest only is mentioned; not the forfeiture of the remaining principal. But in fact, according to this opinion, the sense so far explained must be further extended to the same purpose. Else, there would be a contradiction, repugnant to reason, in the forfeiture of the balance when a creditor has casually written no receipt or given no acquittance, but without intending to obtain a second payment of the same sum, *while on the other hand a less penalty fell on a wilful offence.*



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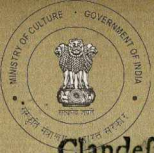
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