

graceful hips, bring forth terrible and grim-visaged Rākshasas delighting in frightful friends, and of cruel deeds.' Hearing his speech, she, bowing down, said,—'O reverend (ascetic), such sons of terrific ways seek I not from thee that followest the Veda. Therefore it behoveth thee to favor me.' On being thus besought by the girl, Viçravā—best of ascetics—again addressed Kaikasi, like the full Moon addressing Rohini,\*—'O fair-faced one, the son that thou bringest forth last, shall be like unto my line,—he shall, without doubt—be righteous-souled.' Having been thus accosted, the girl, O Rāma, after a length of time brought forth a very terrible and hideous offspring having the form of a Raksha,—having ten necks, furnished with large teeth, and resembling a heap of collyrium, with coppery lips, twenty arms, huge faces, and flaming hair. On his having been born, jackals with flaming mouths and other ferocious beasts began to gyrate on the left. And that god showered down blood ; and the clouds uttered forth harsh sounds. And the Sun was deprived of his splendour ; and meteors began to dart to the earth. And the earth shook ; and the wind swept away violently. And that lord of streams—the ocean, which was calm before, became agitated. And his sire resembling his grand-father named him, (saying),—'As this one hath been born with ten necks, he shall be called Ten-necked.' After him was born Kumbhakarna endowed with prodigious strength, than whose proportions there are none other's on earth. Then was born she that, having a frightful visage, goeth under the name of Surpanakhā ; the righteous Bibhishana is the youngest son of Kaikasi. On that one endowed with great strength having been born, blossoms were showered down from heaven ; and celestial kettle-drums were sounded in the heavenly regions. And then there arose the sounds of 'Excellent !' 'Excellent !' And in that extensive forest those exceedingly energetic ones—Kumbhakarna and the Ten-necked one grew up,—and

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\* Hesperus.