

generosity; their use of milk mingled with honey in the ritual is referred to;³ and a cow that miscarries (*ava-tokā*) from accident is dedicated to the Atharvans, according to the Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa.⁴

³ Rv. ix. 11, 2.

⁴ iii. 4, 11, 1. Cf. Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xxx. 15.

Cf. Bloomfield, *Hymns of the Athar-*

vaveda, xxxv. *et seq.*, who (p. xxxviii) takes *avatokā* as a woman, and the Atharvans as the hymns; Hillebrandt, *Vedische Mythologie*, 2, 174 *et seq.*

Atharvāṇaḥ.—This expression¹ is used with **Āngirasah**, to denote the Atharvaveda. The compound **Atharvāṅgirasah** is employed in the same sense.

¹ Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa, iii. 12, 9, 1; | Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, xiii. 4, 3, 5
Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa, xvi. 10, 10; | *et seq.*

Atharvāṅgirasah.—This is the collective name of the Atharvaveda in several passages¹ of the later Brāhmaṇas. It occurs once in the Atharvaveda itself,² while the term Atharvaveda is not found before the Sūtra period.³ The compound seems, according to Bloomfield,⁴ to denote the two elements which make up the Atharvaveda. The former part refers to the auspicious practices of the Veda (*bheṣajāmi*);⁵ the latter to its hostile witchcraft, the *yātu*⁶ or *abhi-cāra*.⁷ This theory is supported by the names of the two mythic personages **Ghora Āngirasa** and **Bhiṣaj Ātharvaṇa**, as well as by the connection of Atharvāṇaḥ and **Ātharvaṇāni** with healing (*bheṣaja*) in the Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa.⁸ Moreover, the term *bheṣajā* ('remedies') designates in the Atharvaveda⁹ that Veda itself, while in the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa¹⁰ *yātu* ('sorcery') conveys the same meaning. The evidence, however, being by no means convincing, it remains probable that there existed no clear differentiation between the two sages as responsible for the Atharvaveda as a whole.

¹ Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa, iii. 12, 8, 2; Taittirīya Āraṇyaka, ii. 9; 10; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, xi. 5, 6, 7; Bṛhad-āraṇyaka Upaniṣad, ii. 4, 10; iv. 1, 2; 5, 11; Chāndogya Upaniṣad, iii. 4, 1, 2; Taittirīya Upaniṣad, ii. 3, 1.

² x. 7, 20.

³ Śāṅkhāyana Srouta Sūtra, xvi. 2, 9, etc.

⁴ *Journal of the American Oriental*

Society, 11, 387 *et seq.*; *Hymns of the Atharvaveda*, xviii. *et seq.*

⁵ Av. xi. 6, 14.

⁶ Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, x. 5, 2, 20.

⁷ Kauśika Sūtra, 3, 19.

⁸ xii. 9, 10; xvi. 10, 10.

⁹ x. 6, 14.

¹⁰ x. 5, 2, 20.

Cf. Hillebrandt, *Vedische Mythologie*, 2, 177.