

**A-dṛṣṭa.**—‘The unseen’ is a term used in the Rigveda<sup>1</sup> and the Atharvaveda<sup>2</sup> to designate a species of vermin. The sun is also described as ‘the slayer of the unseen’ (*adrṣṭa-han*),<sup>3</sup> and as a counterpart a ‘seen’ (*dṛṣṭa*) is mentioned.<sup>4</sup> In one passage<sup>5</sup> the epithets ‘seen’ and ‘unseen’ are applied to the worm (*Kṛmi*), their use being no doubt due to the widespread theory of diseases being due to worms, whether discernable by examination or not.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rv. i. 191, 4 = Av. vi. 52, 2.

<sup>2</sup> vi. 52, 3.

<sup>3</sup> Rv. i. 191, 9 = Av. vi. 52, 1; Av. v. 23, 6.

<sup>4</sup> Av. ii. 31, 2; viii. 8, 15.

<sup>5</sup> Av. v. 23, 6, 7.

<sup>6</sup> Kuhn, *Zeitschrift für vergleichende Sprachforschung*, 13, 135 et seq.; Bloomfield, *Hymns of the Atharvaveda*, 313-315; Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 98.

**Adma-sad.**—This expression (*lit.* ‘sitting at the meal’), found several times in the Rigveda,<sup>1</sup> is usually rendered ‘guest at the feast,’ but Geldner<sup>2</sup> adduces reasons to show that it means ‘a fly,’ so called because of its settling on food.

<sup>1</sup> i. 124, 4; vi. 30, 3; vii. 83, 7; viii. 44, 29; *adma-sadvan*, vi. 4, 4.

<sup>2</sup> *Vedische Studien*, 2, 179, 180; but cf. Oldenberg, *Vedaforschung*, 90.

**Adri.**—Zimmer<sup>1</sup> deduces from the use of this word (‘rock,’ ‘stone’) in a passage of the Rigveda,<sup>2</sup> that sling-stones were used in Vedic fighting. But the passage is mythical, referring to Indra’s aid, and cannot be used with any certainty as evidence for human war. More probably it merely denotes Indra’s bolt. See also **Aśani**.

<sup>1</sup> *Altindisches Leben*, 301. Cf. Roth, *St. Petersburg Dictionary*, s.v.

<sup>2</sup> i. 51, 3.

**Adhi-devana.**—The place where the dice were thrown is thus designated in the Atharvaveda<sup>1</sup> and the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa,<sup>2</sup> according to Lüders.<sup>3</sup> Roth,<sup>4</sup> followed by Whitney, takes it to mean ‘gambling-board.’ See **Akṣa**.

<sup>1</sup> v. 31, 6; vi. 70, 1.

<sup>2</sup> v. 4, 4, 20, 22, 23.

<sup>3</sup> *Das Würfelspiel im alten Indien*, 11-13.

<sup>4</sup> *St. Petersburg Dictionary*, s.v.

**Adhi-rāja.**—The word occurs fairly often throughout the early literature,<sup>1</sup> denoting ‘overlord’ among kings or princes.

<sup>1</sup> Rv. x. 128, 9; Av. vi. 98, 1; ix. 10, 24; *Taittiriya Saṃhitā*, ii. 4, 14, 2; *Maitrāyaṇi Saṃhitā*, iv. 12, 3; *Kāthaka*

*Samhitā*, viii. 17; *Taittiriya Brāhmaṇa*, iii. 1, 2, 9 (*adhirājan*); *Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa*, v. 4, 2, 2; *Nirukta*, viii. 2.