

**Apā-sraya.** See **Upā-sraya.**

**Apā-skambha.**—The word occurs only in one passage of the Atharvaveda, where the tip of it is mentioned as poisoned. Roth<sup>1</sup> suggests that the fastening of the arrow-point to the shaft is meant. Whitney<sup>2</sup> inclines to this version, but suggests corruption of text. Zimmer<sup>3</sup> follows Roth. Ludwig<sup>4</sup> renders the word by 'barb.' Bloomfield<sup>5</sup> thinks it means 'tearing (arrow),' a sense deduced from the etymology.

<sup>1</sup> St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v.  
The passage is Av. iv. 6, 4.

<sup>2</sup> Translation of the Atharvaveda,  
153.

<sup>3</sup> *Altindisches Leben*, 300.

<sup>4</sup> Translation of the Rigveda, 3, 512.

<sup>5</sup> *Hymns of the Atharvaveda*, 375.

**Apācyas.**—The kings of the 'Westerners' are referred to in the Aitareya Brāhmaṇa (viii. 14) in connection with those of the Nīcyas.

**Apāna.**—The word appears repeatedly in the Atharvaveda,<sup>1</sup> and later as one of the vital breaths (**Prāṇa**), usually with Prāṇa, and often with one or more of the other three. Its original sense<sup>2</sup> appears to have been 'inspiration.' Its connection with the lower part of the body (*nābhi*, 'navel'), which is found already in the Aitareya Upaniṣad,<sup>3</sup> is not unnatural.

<sup>1</sup> Av. ii. 28, 3; v. 30, 12, etc.; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xiii. 19; 24, etc.

<sup>2</sup> See Caland, *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft*, lv. 261; 56, 556-558, correcting Ewing,

*Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 22, 249 et seq.

<sup>3</sup> Aitareya Upaniṣad, i. 4, etc.

Cf. Deussen, *Philosophy of the Upaniṣads*, 263 et seq.

**Apā-mārga.**—A plant (*Achyranthes aspera*) used frequently<sup>1</sup> in witchcraft practices, and for medical purposes, especially against **Kṣetriya**. It is described in the Atharvaveda<sup>2</sup> as 'revertive' (*punaḥ-sara*), either, as Roth<sup>3</sup> and Zimmer<sup>4</sup> think, because of its having reverted leaves (a view also accepted by Whitney<sup>5</sup>),

<sup>1</sup> Atharvaveda, iv. 17, 6; 18, 7; 19, 4; vii. 65, 2; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xxxv. 11; Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa, i. 7, 1, 8; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, v. 2, 4, 14; xiii. 8, 4, 4.

<sup>2</sup> iv. 17, 2.

<sup>3</sup> St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v.

<sup>4</sup> *Altindisches Leben*, 67.

<sup>5</sup> Translation of the Atharvaveda,  
180.