

other books, the Ayas is divided into two species—the *śyāma* ('iron') and the *lohita* ('copper' or 'bronze'). In the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa⁸ a distinction is drawn between Ayas and *lohāyasa*, which may either be a distinction between iron and copper as understood by Eggeling,⁹ or between copper and bronze as held by Schrader.¹⁰ In one passage of the Atharvaveda,¹¹ the sense of iron seems certain. Possibly, too, the arrow of the Rigveda,¹² which had a tip of Ayas (*yasyā ayo mukham*), was pointed with iron. Copper, however, is conceivable, and bronze quite likely.

Iron is called *śyāma ayas* or *śyāma* alone.¹³ See also **Kārṣṇāyasa**. Copper is **Lohāyasa** or **Lohitāyasa**.

The smelting (*dhmā* 'to blow') of the metal is frequently referred to. The Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa¹⁴ states that if 'well smelted' (*bahu-dhmātam*) it is like gold, referring evidently to bronze. A heater of Ayas is mentioned in the Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā,¹⁵ and bowls of Ayas are also spoken of.¹⁶

⁸ v. 4, 1, 2.

⁹ *Sacred Books of the East*, 41, 9c

¹⁰ *Prehistoric Antiquities*, 189.

¹¹ v. 28, 1.

¹² vi. 75, 15.

¹³ Av. ix. 5, 4.

¹⁴ vi. 1, 3, 5. Cf. vi. 1, 1, 13; v. 1, 2, 14; xii. 7, 1, 7; 2, 10, etc.

¹⁵ xxx. 14; Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa, iii. 4, 10, 1.

¹⁶ Av. viii. 10, 22; Maitrāyaṇī Saṃhitā, iv. 2, 13.

Aya-sthūna.—He was Gṛhpati ('householder,' the sacrificer at sacrificial sessions) of those whose Adhvaryu was Śaulvāyana, and taught the latter the proper mode of using certain spoons.¹

¹ Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, xi. 4, 2, 17 *et seq.*

Ayāsyā Āngirasa.—This sage appears to be mentioned in two passages of the Rigveda,¹ and the Anukramaṇī ascribes to him several hymns of the Rigveda (ix. 44-46; x. 67; 68). In the Brāhmaṇa tradition he was Udgātr at the Rājasūya or Royal Inauguration Sacrifice, at which Śunaṣṣepa was to have been slain, and his Udgītha (Sāmaveda chant) is referred to elsewhere.³ He is also referred to several times as a ritual

¹ x. 67, 1; 108, 8. Perhaps x. 92,

15 also refers to him, but not i. 62, 7;

x. 138, 4.

² Aitareya Brāhmaṇa, vii. 16.

³ Jaiminiya Upaniṣad Brāhmaṇa, ii. 7, 2, 6; 8, 3. Cf. Chāndogya Upaniṣad, i. 2, 12.