

(*utsa*), though the latter expression is also applied to an artificial well. Such wells were covered by the makers,² and are described as unfailling (*a-kṣita*) and full of water.³ The water was raised by a wheel (*cakra*) of stone, to which was fastened a strap (*varatrā*), with a pail (*kośa*)⁴ attached to it. When raised it was poured (*siñc*) into buckets (*āhāva*)⁵ of wood.⁶ Sometimes those wells appear to have been used for irrigation purposes, the water being led off into broad channels (*sūrmī suṣirā*).⁶

² Rv. i. 55, 8.

³ Rv. x. 101, 6, etc.

⁴ *Aṃsatra-kośam*, Rv. x. 101, 7, is best thus rendered. For the stone wheel (*āma-cakra*) which was above (*uccā-cakra*), see Rv. x. 101, 7; viii. 72, 10. For the *varatrā*, see Rv. x. 101, 6. Perhaps

kū-cakra in Rv. x. 102, 11, is another name for the wheel, but cf. St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v.

⁵ Rv. x. 101, 6, 7.

⁶ Rv. viii. 69, 12. Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 156, 157; Geldner, *Vedische Studien*, 2, 14.

Avatsāra is mentioned as a seer in the Rigveda,¹ as a priest in the Altareya Brāhmaṇa,² and as Prāsravaṇa (or Prāśravaṇa), son of Prasravaṇa, in the Kauṣītaki Brāhmaṇa.³ A hymn of the Rigveda⁴ is incorrectly ascribed to him in the Anukramaṇī.

¹ v. 44, 10.

² ii. 24.

³ xiii. 3.

⁴ ix. 58. Cf. Ludwig, Translation of

the Rigveda, 3, 138; Weber, *Indische Studien*, 1, 188; 2, 315; Sieg, *Die Sagenstoffe des Rgveda*, 62 et seq.

A-vadhyatā. See **Brāhmaṇa**.

Avasa in the adjective *an-avasa* in the Rigveda¹ may mean 'drag.'

¹ vi. 66, 7. Cf. Max Müller, *Sacred Books of the East*, 32, 372.

Ava-skava.—A kind of worm, mentioned along with others in the Atharvaveda.¹

¹ ii. 31, 4. Cf. Whitney, *ad loc.*; Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 90; Bloom-Weber, *Indische Studien*, 13, 201; field, *Hymns of the Atharvaveda*, 316

Avāta. See **Vāta**.

Avi.—'Sheep' are repeatedly mentioned in the Rigveda, and later, often in conjunction with goats (*aja*). The wolf (*vṛka*) was their great enemy,¹ and they were tended by shepherds.²

¹ Av. v. 8, 4; Rv. viii. 34, 3; 66, 8.

² *Avi-pāla*, Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xxx.

ii; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, iv. 1, 5, 2; *avi-pā*, Taittiriya Brāhmaṇa, iii. 4, 9, 1.