

usually, but erroneously, called *Āryabhaṭṭa*. The manuscripts in which the name occurs prove nothing; they will in one line write *Āryabhaṭa* and *Āryabhaṭṭa*, and would, if we had no other means of arriving at the truth, balance each other. Happily the word occurs in verses, and the metre decides the question at once. The Arabic form *Arjabhar* would, if necessary, have been sufficient to show that the MSS. giving *Āryabhaṭa* are right, and wrong in the opposite case, for a single *ṭ* may become in the mouth of the people *r* or something like it, but never *ṭṭ*. Albīrūnī writes the name with *t*, instead of with *r*, as other Arabs used to do, because being conversant with Sanskrit he gives not the popular or Prākṛit pronunciation, but the approximately more correct one with *t*, in the same way as he writes the name of *Lāṭa* with *t*. It may seem unnecessary to dwell upon a seeming trifle, but error, be it ever so small, ought not to be sanctioned.

Colebrooke was aware that *Varāha-mihira* must have been acquainted with *Āryabhaṭa*'s writings, from which he concluded that the latter astronomer was prior to the former (see Alg. XLIV), admitting that at the latest he must have lived at the commencement of the 6th century. Colebrooke did not know that *Varāha-mihira* actually mentions *Āryabhaṭa*'s name, still less that he quotes one verse in full from his works, neither had the great scholar been able to acquire MSS. of *Āryabhaṭa*'s works. Such MSS. are indeed, it would seem, very rare, and in Hindustān proper unheard of; nevertheless they exist, and had it not been for a wrong title two of the works of *Āryabhaṭa* would have been recognized as such long ago. The title of a certain MS. in the Berlin Library* bears: *Āryabhaṭa-Siddhānta vyākhyāne Bhaṭapradīpe Daṣagītibhāshyam.*" Weber misled, as any other would be, by the title, took the whole for a *Daṣagīti-bhāshyam* or commentary on the *Daṣagīti*. Whitney in the *Journ. Amer. Or. Soc.* 6th Vol., p. 560, sqq. proved that the doctrines in it contained

* Weber's Catalogue, p. 232.