

may be either 'scum,' 'sediment,'² or perhaps more probably vegetable matter in the form of 'husks.'³

² St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v., | ³ Eggeling, *Sacred Books of the East*,
Flocken ('flakes'). | 44, 236, n. 1.

Balbaja is the name of the grass called *Eleusine indica*. It is mentioned in the Atharvaveda,¹ and is said in the Yajurveda Samhitās² to be produced from the excrements of cattle. In the Kāthaka Samhitā² it is stated to be used for the sacrificial litter (*Barhis*) and for fuel. Baskets or other products made from this grass are referred to in a Dānastuti ('Praise of Gifts') in the Rigveda.³

¹ xiv. 2, 22, 23.

² Taittiriya Samhitā, ii. 2, 8, 2;
Kāthaka Samhitā, x. 10; Maitrāyaṇī
Samhitā, ii. 2, 5.

³ viii. 55, 3.

Cf. St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v.;
Zimmer, *Allindisches Leben*, 69, 70.

1. **Balhika** is the name of a people in the Atharvaveda¹ where the fever (*Takman*) is called upon to go to the *Mūjavants*, the *Mahāvṛṣas*, and the *Balhikas*. The *Mūjavants* are quite certainly a northern tribe, and though, as Bloomfield² suggests, the passage may contain a pun on *Balhika* as suggesting 'outsider' (from *bahis*, 'without'), still no doubt the name was chosen from a northern tribe. But the view of Roth³ and Weber,⁴ which Zimmer⁵ once accepted, that an Iranian tribe is referred to (cf. *Balkh*), is not at all probable. Zimmer⁶ shows that there is no need whatever to assume Iranian influence. See also *Parsu*.

¹ v. 22, 5, 7, 9.

² *Hymns of the Atharvaveda*, 446.

³ *Zur Litteratur und Geschichte des
Weda*, 41.

⁴ *Indische Studien*, 1, 205; *Proceedings
of the Berlin Academy*, 1892, 985-995.

⁵ *Allindisches Leben*, 130.

⁶ *Op. cit.*, 431-433.

Cf. Whitney, *Translation of the
Atharvaveda*, 260; Hopkins, *Great Epic
of India*, 373.

2. **Balhika Prātipīya** is the name of a *Kuru* king in the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa,¹ where he appears as having been opposed to the restoration of *Duṣṭaritu Paumsāyana* to his hereditary sovereignty over the *Srñjayas*, but as having failed to prevent

¹ xii. 9, 3, 3.