

**Vi-çrt** in the dual is found in three passages of the Atharva-veda,<sup>1</sup> where Roth<sup>2</sup> sees in the term the name of two stars, while in the Taittiriya Saṃhitā<sup>3</sup> he thinks they mean the **Nakṣatra** called **Mūla**. There can, however, be no doubt that the asterism is intended in all the passages.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ii. 8, 1; vi. 110, 2; 121, 3. See also iii. 7, 4.

<sup>2</sup> St. Petersburg Dictionary, s.v.

<sup>3</sup> iv. 4, 10, 2.

<sup>4</sup> Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 356;

Whitney, Translation of the Atharva-veda, 361, points out that Viçrtau are λ and ν Scorpionis, while Mūla includes the tail as a whole.

**Vij.** See 2. Akṣa.

**Vi-jāmātr.** See Jāmātr.

**Vitastā**, the most westerly of the five rivers of the Panjab, is only mentioned in the Rigveda<sup>1</sup> in the Nadistuti ('Praise of Rivers').<sup>2</sup> It is the Hydaspes of Alexander's historians, more correctly reproduced by Ptolemy as Bidaspes. The name appears in the Mohammedan historians corrupted to Bihat or Wihat, and survives in the modern Kashmīrī form of Veth.

<sup>1</sup> x. 75, 5; Nirukta, ix. 26; cf. Kāśikā Vṛtti on Pāṇini, i. 4, 31. Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 12; *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, 14, 160.

<sup>2</sup> The rareness of the name in the Rigveda points to the Panjab not having been the seat of the activity of the greater part of the Vedic Indians.

**Vitta** in the Rigveda<sup>1</sup> and later<sup>2</sup> denotes 'wealth,' 'possessions.' The earth is referred to in the Taittiriya Upaniṣad<sup>3</sup> as full of riches (*vittasya pūrṇā*). The doctrine that a man's greatness depends on his wealth is found as early as the Taittiriya Brāhmaṇa.<sup>4</sup> The striving after wealth (*vittaiṣaṇā*) is mentioned in the Bṛhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad<sup>5</sup> as one of the things abandoned by the sage.

<sup>1</sup> v. 42, 9; x. 34, 13.

<sup>2</sup> Av. xii. 3, 52; Taittiriya Saṃhitā, i. 5, 9, 2; vi. 2, 4, 3; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xviii. 11, 14, etc.

<sup>3</sup> ii. 8. Cf. the name *vasumati* found in the Śāukhāyana Āraṇyaka, xiii. 1.

<sup>4</sup> i. 4, 7, 7.

<sup>5</sup> iii. 4, 1; iv. 4, 26.