

Tārṣya is mentioned in the Rigveda¹ as a divine steed, apparently the sun conceived as a horse.² But Foy,³ judging by the name, apparently a patronymic of Tṛkṣi, who is known from the Rigveda⁴ onwards as a descendant of Trasadasyu, thinks that a real steed, the property of Tṛkṣi, is meant; but this is not very probable.⁵ See also Tārūkṣya.

¹ i. 89, 6; x. 178.

² Macdonell, *Vedic Mythology*, p. 149.

³ Kuhn's *Zeitschrift*, II, 366, 367.

⁴ viii. 22, 7.

⁵ In Khila, ii. 4, 1, Tārṣya is represented as a bird (*vāyasa*), also a symbol of the sun. In the Vājasaneyi Samhitā, xv. 18, he is mentioned with Ariṣṭanemi,

originally an epithet of his (Rv. i. 89, 6; x. 178, 1), as a person, and in the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, xiii. 4, 3, 13, he appears as Vaipaśyata (Vaipaścita in Āśvalāyana Śrauta Sūtra, x. 7), king of the birds (cf. Eggeling, *Sacred Books of the East*, 44, 369).

Tārpya denotes, in the Atharvaveda¹ and later,² a garment made of some material, the nature of which is uncertain. The commentators on the Kātyāyana Śrauta Sūtra and the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa³ suggest that a linen garment, or one thrice soaked in ghee, or one made of the *tṛpā* or of the *triparna* plant, is meant: it is doubtful whether the sense was known even to the author of the Brāhmaṇa himself. Goldstücker's⁴ rendering of the word is 'silken garment,' which Eggeling⁵ is inclined to accept.⁶

¹ xviii. 4, 31.

² Taittirīya Samhitā, ii. 4, 11, 6; Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa, i. 3, 7, 1; 7, 6, 4; Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa, xxi. 1; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, v. 3, 5, 20; Kātyāyana Śrauta Sūtra, xv. 5, 7 *et seq.*; Śāṅkhāyana Śrauta Sūtra, xvi. 12, 19.

³ v. 3, 5, 20. Cf. Kātyāyana, *loc. cit.*; Sāyaṇa on Av., *loc. cit.*; Whitney, *Translation of the Atharvaveda*, 879.

⁴ Dictionary, s.v. *abhiṣecaniya*.

⁵ *Sacred Books of the East*, 41, 85, n. 1.

Tārṣṭāgha, a species of tree, is mentioned in the Kauśika Sūtra,¹ while the adjective formed from it, *tārṣṭāghī*, 'derived from the Tārṣṭāgha tree,' is found in the Atharvaveda.² Weber³ thinks that the *sarṣapa*, or mustard plant, is meant.

¹ xxv. 23.

² v. 29, 15. Cf. Whitney's note in his *Translation of the Atharvaveda*.

³ *Indische Studien*, 18, 280.

Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 62.