

of the inscription, but the objection of Fleet is not valid. As in the inscription No. 49 and 50 of the Gupta Inscriptions, the name of the king is mentioned as the mother of the king. The real difficulty is that the name of the king is not mentioned in the inscription. When they mention the name of the king, they mention the name of the king.

APPENDIX—III

EXPLANATION OF THE PASSAGE "PAIṢṬAPURAKA-MAHENDRAGIRI-KAUṢṬŪRAKA-SVĀMIDATTA"

This expression occurs in L. 19 of the Allahabad Pillar Inscription of Samudragupta. The compound expression has been analysed in different ways by various scholars.

Fleet splits it up as :

Paiṣṭapuraka--Mahendragiri-Kauṣṭūrika--Svāmidatta¹ and translates it as Mahendra of Piṣṭapura, Svāmidatta of Koṭṭūra on the hill.²

The first inclination of Fleet³ is to analyse the expression thus: 'Paiṣṭapuraka-Mahendragiri-Kauṣṭūrika-Svāmidatta' and to translate it as 'Mahendragiri of Piṣṭapura, and Svāmidatta of Koṭṭūra', but he does not stick to it finding difficulty in accepting giri or gīr as suitable termination for a king's name, thinking it only to be used as a religious title.⁴

G. Ramdas⁵ takes the whole phrase to be one and translates it as 'Svāmidatta, who had his seat at Piṣṭapura and at Koṭṭūra near Mahendragiri'. This means that Svāmidatta was the king of both the places. Ramdas supports it by the fact that in inscriptions we often find the king of Piṣṭapura to have been the king of Kalinga also in which Koṭṭūra is situated. He also does not accept the name Mahendragiri as of a king, it being unsupported by history or inscriptions. Bhau Daji⁶ gives another rendering 'Svāmidatta of Piṣṭapura, Mahendragiri, and Koṭṭūra'. But the suggestions of Bhau Daji and G. Ramdas are untenable, because in that case the reading in the text, would have been 'Māhendragirika' in place of Mahendragiri.

As regards the objection that the termination giri or gīr is used only for Gosāvīs and not for kings, even in ancient India we find people bearing such names as Himādri, Hemādri and