

size, being described as *br̥hant*,² 'large.' The word then comes to denote the chariot³ itself, either really or metaphorically.⁴

² v. 62, 8; 68, 5.

³ So probably in v. 62, 5; *gartā-rah*, 'mounting the chariot,' in Rv. i. 124, 7; Nirukta, iii. 5, may refer merely to

mounting the seat. The passage is obscure; see Geldner, *Rigveda, Kom-mentar*, 22.

⁴ vii. 64, 4 (of the hymn).

Gardabha, 'the ass,' is mentioned in the *Rigveda*¹ as inferior to the horse. In the *Taittirīya Saṃhitā* he again appears as inferior to the horse,² but at the same time as the best bearer of burdens (*bhāra-bhāritama*) among animals.³ The same authority styles the ass *dvi-retas*, 'having double seed,'⁴ in allusion to his breeding with the mare as well as the she-ass. The smallness of the young of the ass, and his capacity for eating, are both referred to.⁵ The disagreeable cry of the animal is mentioned in the *Atharvaveda*,⁶ and in allusion to this the term 'ass' is applied opprobriously to a singer in the *Rigveda*.⁷ A hundred asses are spoken of as a gift to a singer in a *Vālakhilya* hymn.⁸ The mule (*aśvatara*) is the offspring of an ass and a mare, the latter, like the ass, being called *dvi-retas*,⁹ 'receiving double seed,' for similar reasons. The male ass is often also termed *Rāsabha*. The female ass, *Gardabhī*, is mentioned in the *Atharvaveda*¹⁰ and the *Bṛhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad*.¹¹

¹ iii. 53, 23. A car drawn by asses is referred to in the *Aitareya Brāhmaṇa*, iv. 9; see also *Khara*.

² v. I, 2, I. 2.

³ v. I, 5, 5.

⁴ v. I, 5, 5; vii. I, I, 2; *Jaiminiya Brāhmaṇa*, i. 57, 4 (Oertel, *Transactions of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences*, 15, 177-180); of the *Rāsabha*, *Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa*, vi. 3, I, 23.

⁵ *Taittirīya Saṃhitā*, v. I, 5, 5.

⁶ viii. 6, 10.

⁷ i. 29, 5.

⁸ viii. 56, 3.

⁹ *Taittirīya Saṃhitā*, vii. I, I, 2, 3; *Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa*, vi. I, 6; *Jaiminiya Brāhmaṇa*, i. 57, 4.

¹⁰ x. I, 4.

¹¹ i. 4, 8. For other references to the ass as *Gardabha*, see *Av.* v. 31, 3; *Aitareya Brāhmaṇa*, iii. 34; *Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa*, iv. 5, I, 9; xii. 7, I, 5.

Cf. Zimmer, *Altindisches Leben*, 232, 233.

Gardabhī-mukha is mentioned as a teacher in the *Vamśa Brāhmaṇa*.¹

¹ *Indische Studien*, 4, 384.