

DH.

Dhana, 'prize,' is often found in the Rigveda,¹ probably the prize in racing rather than the 'booty' in battle. It also denotes² the 'stake' at dicing. In some passages it possibly means the 'contest' itself.³ More generally it denotes 'wealth' or 'gift.'⁴ But it sometimes expresses 'booty,'⁵ probably from the notion of 'wealth' rather than of 'prize.'

¹ Rv. i. 81, 3; vi. 45, 2; viii. 80, 8; ix. 53, 2; 109, 10. Cf. Geldner, *Vedische Studien*, I, 120; Pischel, *ibid.*, I, 171.

² Rv. x. 34, 10; Av. iv. 38, 3.

³ Rv. i. 31, 6; v. 35, 7; vii. 38, 8;

viii. 5, 26; 8, 21; 49, 9; 50, 9; x. 48, 5, etc.

⁴ Rv. i. 42, 6; x. 18, 2; 84, 7; Av. i. 15, 3; ii. 7, 4; iii. 15, 2; v. 19, 9; vi. 81, 1; vii. 81, 4; viii. 5, 16, etc.

⁵ Rv. i. 74, 3; 157, 2, etc.

Dhana-dhānī, a 'treasure house,' is mentioned in the Taittiriya Āraṇyaka (x. 67).

Dhaniṣṭhā ('very rich'), used in the plural, is the later name¹ of the lunar mansion (Nakṣatra) Śraviṣṭhā.

¹ Śāntikalpa, 13; Śāṅkhāyana Gṛhya Sūtra, i. 26.

Dhanu (fem.), 'sandbank,' occurs several times in the Rigveda,¹ but only metaphorically of the clouds in the atmosphere. Dhanū is found in the Atharvaveda,² where it seems to denote a sandbag used to prevent bleeding.³ Cf. **Dhanvan**.

¹ i. 33, 4; 144, 5; viii. 3, 19; x. 4, 3; 17, 17.

² i. 17, 4.

³ Weber, *Indische Studien*, 4, 411;

Whitney, Translation of the Atharvaveda, 18; Bloomfield, *Hymns of the Atharvaveda*, 259, 260.

Dhanus, the 'bow,' frequently mentioned in the Rigveda¹ and later,² was the chief weapon of the Vedic Indian.³ The last act of the funeral rite included the removal of the bow from

¹ viii. 72, 4; 77, 11; ix. 99, 1; x. 18, 9; 125, 6.

² Av. iv. 4, 6; 6, 6; v. 18, 8; vii. 50, 9; Vājasaneyi Saṃhitā, xvi. 10; Pañcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa, vii. 5, 6; Aitareya

Brāhmaṇa, vii. 14; Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, i. 5, 4, 6; v. 3, 1, 11, etc.

³ Rv. vi. 75, 2. Practically no other weapon plays any substantial part in Vedic warfare.