





The Illustrations will be issued shortly in the Second volume.





**THE**  
**Surgical Instruments of the Hindus**





THE  
SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS  
OF THE HINDUS

WITH

A Comparative Study of the Surgical Instruments of  
the Greek, Roman, Arab and the Modern  
European Surgeons.

BY

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TO  
THE HON'BLE  
**SIR ASUTOSH MUKHOPADHYAY, Kt.,**

**Saraswati, Sastra-vachaspati,**

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in Bengal,**

***VICE-CHANCELLOR, CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY,***

**Ex-President of the Asiatic Society of Bengal,**

AND

**Chairman of the Board of Sanskrit Studies,**

**In recognition of his love of Science, his pre-eminent services to the cause  
of University Education, his administrative ability, and his generous  
liberality to scholars**

AS WELL AS

**In grateful remembrance of many acts of kindness,**

**THIS VOLUME IS**

**DEDICATED**

BY

**THE AUTHOR**





## PREFACE.

For researches into the state of medicine among the Ancient Hindus, we have several sources of information to scrutinise. The remarks of Dr. Payne regarding the sources of information of Anglo-Saxon Medicine may apply here with still greater force.<sup>1</sup>

First is the evidence of contemporary literature about the craft of physicians and surgeons, since we are sure that there has always been a class of medicine men of one kind or another. Thus we find in the R̥gveda, the use of artificial limb as a substitute for a limb accidentally lost<sup>2</sup>. From the Mahābhārata,

<sup>1</sup> Payne's English Medicine in the Anglo-Saxon Times, P. 7.

- <sup>2</sup> चरित्रं हि वेरिवाच्छेदि पर्णम्  
आजा खेलस्य परितक्मग्रायाम् ।  
सद्यो जङ्घामायसीं विशपलायै  
• धने हिते सत्तवे प्रत्यधत्तम् ॥

R̥gveda—15th Rk., 1st Mandala, 116 Sūkta.

अगस्त्य पुरोहितः खेलो नाम राजा तस्य सम्बन्धिनी विशपलानामस्त्री, संयामे शत्रुभिः क्षिप्रपदा आसीत् । पुरोहितेन अगस्त्वेन स्तुतौ अश्विनौ राज्ञी आगत्य आयोमयं पादं समधत्ताम् । तदेतदाह 'आजा'—आजौ, संयामे, अगस्त्य पुरोहितस्य—खेलस्य राजतः सम्बन्धिन्याः विशपलाख्याया, 'चरित्रं'—चरणं, 'वेरिव'—वेः पक्षिणः, 'पर्णं' पतत्रम् इव, 'अच्छेदि हि'—पूरा क्षिप्रमभूत् खलु । हे अश्विनौ ! युवां अगस्त्वेन स्तुतौ सन्तौ, 'परितक्मग्रायां'—रात्रौ, आगत्य, 'सद्यः'—तदानीमेव, 'सत्तवे'—सत्तू गन्तुम् इत्यर्थः, विशपलायै 'आयसीं';—लौहमयीम्, 'जङ्घा'—जङ्घीपलक्षितं पादम्, 'प्रत्यधत्तम्'—सन्धानम् एकीकरणमित्यर्थः कृतवन्तौ ।

we learn that when Parikṣit, the king of the Kurus, became certain of his approaching death by snake-bite, due to a curse uttered by a sage, he tried to protect himself by the constant attendance of a number of physicians, who were well supplied with antidotes.<sup>1</sup> Again it is stated that when the great warrior Bhīṣma was wounded in war, the skillful army surgeons came to him with the necessary medical and surgical appliances to treat his wounds.<sup>2</sup> From the Mohāvāgga, we learn that Jivaka, the personal physician of Buddha, practised cranial surgery with success.<sup>3</sup> In the Mālavikāgnimitra, we find the use of charms—a signet.

- <sup>1</sup> संमन्त्रा मन्त्रिभिश्चैव स तथा मन्त्रतत्त्ववित् ।  
 प्रासादं कारयामास एकस्तम्भं सुरक्षितं ।  
 रक्षाञ्च विदधे तत्र भिषजश्चौषधानि च ।  
 ब्राह्मणान्मन्त्रसिद्धांश्च सर्व्वती वैद्ययोजयत् ।

Mahābhārata, Adi Parva, Ch. 42.

- <sup>2</sup> उपातिष्ठन्नथी वैद्याः शल्योद्धरणकीविदाः ।  
 सञ्जीवपकरणैर्युक्ताः कुशलैः साधु शिञ्चिताः ।  
 तान् दृष्ट्वा जान्हवीपुत्रः प्रीवाच तनयं तव ।  
 धनं दत्त्वा विसृज्यन्तां पूजयित्वा चिकित्सकाः ।  
 एवं गते मयेदानीं वैद्यैः कार्य्यमिहास्ति किं ।  
 चतुर्धर्म्मो प्रशस्तां हि प्राप्नोऽस्मि परमां गतिं ।  
 नैष धर्म्मो महीपालाः शरतत्पगतस्य मे ।  
 एभिरेव शरैश्चाहं दग्धव्योऽस्मि नराधिपाः ।  
 तच्छ्रुत्वा वचनं तस्य पुत्री दुर्ध्वो धनस्तव ।  
 वैद्यान् विसर्ज्जयामास पूजयित्वा यथाऽर्हत्तः ।

Mahābhārata, Bhīṣma Parva, Ch. 121,

Vs. 5745—5750. (A.S.B. Ed.)

<sup>3</sup> Mohāvāgga, VIII. 1.18.



ring as a healing talisman for the cure of snake-bite;<sup>1</sup> and also we find there a reference to a class of physicians who specialised themselves in Toxicology (Viṣa-Vaidya),<sup>2</sup> and were held in high esteem for their professional skill by the public.<sup>3</sup> From the Bhojaprabandha, the administration of some kind of anæsthetic by inhalation before surgical operations can be ascertained. Similarly from the books of Law, we know the relations of the profession to society in general. In the Manusamhitā, we have unmistakable testimony of the decline of Hindu surgery as the author prohibits the eating of cooked rice from the hands of a surgeon.<sup>4</sup>

1 सहि ! देवीए इदं सिपिसत्रासादी आनीदशागमुद्दासणाहं अङ्गुलीअत्रं सिणिङ्गं  
विभालअन्ती तूह उवालम्हे पडिदन्नि ॥

Mālavikāgnimitra, Ch. I.

जय ।—जिदु जिदु भङ्गा । धुवसिङ्गी विस्वेदी । उदकुम्भविधाणेण सप्यमुद्दिआ कपिदन्वा ।  
ता असेसीअदुत्ति । धारि ।—एदं सप्यमुद्दअम् अङ्गुलीअत्रम् । पच्छा मह हत्थे णम् ।

Ibid, Ch. IV.

2 परि ।—हेदी दंशस्य दाही वा चतस्यारक्तनीचणम् । एतानि ददमावाणा-  
मायुष्याः प्रतिपत्तयः ॥ ( संप्रति विषवैद्यानाम् कर्मम् । )

राजा ।—जयसेने ! धुवसिङ्गिः क्षिप्रमाह्वयताम् ॥

Ibid, Ch. IV.

3 निपु ।—पसणमुहवणी दीसदि । अवि अ धुवसिङ्गिणा चिदस्सिदी । मा से  
असङ्गिज्जं पावं ॥

Ibid, Ch. IV.

4 चिकित्सकान्देवलकान्मांसविक्रयिणस्तथा ।

विपण्येन च जीवन्ती वज्ज्याः स्युर्हव्यकव्ययीः ॥

Manusamhitā, Ch. III, 152.

चिकित्सकस्य मृगयोः क्रूरस्थोच्छिष्टभोजिनः ।

उयात्रं सूतिकात्रं च पर्याचान्तमनिर्दशम् ॥

Ibid, Ch. IV, 212.

Secondly, monuments or inscriptions scattered about the country have to be searched, as references found therein to the science of medicine, are more trustworthy than documents which may have been more or less tampered with by interpolations of subsequent writers. Thus we learn from the Edicts of Aśoka, that hospitals were established by him in different parts of his kingdom, not only for the treatment of suffering humanity but also for the brute creation<sup>1</sup>.

Thirdly, personages and scenes in connection with medical practice, and figures of herbs may have been represented in works of art which must be thoroughly examined. But unfortunately we do not possess any such work of art and so we can learn nothing to our purpose from this source. In the interpretation of the subject of the Friezes of the Rani Naur and Ganesha's Cave, Dr. R. L. Mitra says,—“The shampooing in the Ganesa Cave may be for a parent, but the close seat with the right hand round the neck of the male personage in the other, would be highly unbecoming in an unmarried female. But if the stooping figure be taken to be that of a wounded man, a wounded priest for instance, the lady may be a maiden nursing him without any offence to propriety. It is true that the appearance of the figure on the mattress does not indicate suffering from a wound, but in the Rani Naur frieze, the stooping head affords some indication of it.”<sup>2</sup>

पूयं चिकित्सकस्यान्नं पुंशल्यास्त्वन्नमिन्द्रियम् ।

विठा वार्धूषिकस्यान्नं शस्त्रविक्रयिणी मलम् ॥

Manusamhitā, Ch. IV, 220.

<sup>1</sup> Rock Inscriptions, Edict II.

<sup>2</sup> The Antiquities of Orissa, Vol. II, p. 11.



Fourthly, the various kinds of surgical instruments preserved in museums are to be examined and the reports of finds of surgical appliances in various localities are to be studied. We know what a flood of light has been thrown on ancient Greek surgery by the steady progress of archaeological discovery and finds of instruments at Pompeii, Herculaneum and elsewhere, and by the study of the specimens preserved in the Naples museum, the Athens museum and other museums of Europe. But as far as I have been able to trace, our museums contain no finds supplying us with any information on the subject.

Fifthly, the literature of medicine itself should be thoroughly inquired into and excerpts elucidative of our subject should be compared with one another. "The detailed descriptions of the very numerous Hindu instruments not being very minute or precise, Professor Wilson says, we can only conjecture what they may have been, from a consideration of the purport of their names, and the objects to which they were applied, in connection with the imperfect description given."<sup>1</sup> We are fortunate, however, in possessing a copious medical literature of great merit from very early times. We shall describe the important books in the introductory chapter, with short notices of their authors.

Sixthly, the comparative study of the science at the same period in other countries also furnishes us with valuable materials as regards the state of medicine in a country. It is well known that Sanskrit works are often written in a very terse language

<sup>1</sup> Royle's *Antiquity of Hindu Medicine*, foot-note, p. 59-60.

and it might be said with greater truth about the works of early Sanskrit authors, the comment of a learned critic about the style of Thucydides, the famous historian,—“the most obvious and characteristic of his peculiarities is an endeavour to express as much matter as possible in as few words as possible, to combine many thoughts into one, and always to leave the reader to supply something of his own. Hence his conciseness often becomes obscure.” I could not form any idea as to the shape of some of the surgical instruments from the descriptions given in the text books, and the commentators are often silent on those passages. But when I read the accounts of similar instruments in Greek and Roman literature, my difficulties at once cleared up. We know with what brilliant results comparative mythology and comparative philology have been studied of late years, and I am sure that a comparative study of medical science by scholars will lead to interesting discoveries. So I have added descriptions of the instruments according to the Greeks, Romans and Arabs at the end of the descriptions given in Sanskrit books: the former serving as commentaries on the latter.

Seventhly, in the accounts of historians, travellers and pilgrims from foreign countries, may be found notices of medical science, as they saw it practised during their sojourn in a country, and such impressions, if properly collated, may bear impartial testimony to the progress of the science at the time. Again, we must enquire if the original treatises of medicine can be proved to have been translated into different languages and whether the remedial agents of a country can be traced in the Pharmacopœias of different nations. Thus we



learn from the accounts of Houen Tsang and Fa Hian that charitable institutions such as hospitals, dispensaries and Pūnyasālās (Houses of Charity) were quite common in ancient India.<sup>1</sup> Arrian informs us in his *Indica* that the study of medicine among the Brahmans was in great favour.<sup>2</sup> We know that the standard works on medicine were translated in Arabic in the 8th Century B. C.,<sup>3</sup> and that various medicinal herbs of Indian origin found their way into the Greek *Materia Medica*.<sup>4</sup>

Eighthly, we must enquire whether the medical practice of ancient times is still resorted to by the physicians of the present days. The Hindu system of medicine is still being practised all over India, more or less in its original form, and so can still be studied at first hand. But for our present purpose, we derive little or no help from the *Vaids* of the present generation. They know practically nothing about anatomy and surgery which began to decline during the Buddhist era, and finally all vestiges of the science became lost during the Mahomedan rule. I have spared no pains to exhaust these sources of information so far as surgical instruments are concerned. Whether or not I have been fortunate enough to give just the necessary details of instruments from the best accessible authorities without at the same time loading my pages with superfluous matter, must be left to the judgment of my readers to determine.

<sup>1</sup> Beal's Buddhist Records of the Western World, Vol. I., P. 165, 198 and 214; Vol. II., p. 188 and 303.

<sup>2</sup> Arrian's *Indica* c. 27.

<sup>3</sup> Alberuni's India, Sachau's Preface, p. XXX—XXXI.

<sup>4</sup> Royle's Antiquity of Hindu Medicine, p. 77-113.



Now it may be asked why the Science and Art of Surgery, which was successfully practised in Ancient India, is so much neglected by the present generation of *Vaid*s. So let us consider the causes that led to the downfall of Hindu Surgery:

1. The Hindus from a very early period have given up the dissection of human bodies—the only trustworthy method of acquiring anatomical knowledge—merely because it may occasion ceremonial uncleanness. The Ancient Hindus were, however, free from such prejudices. Manu lays down that mere bathing will purify a Brahman who has touched a corpse,<sup>1</sup> whilst stroking a cow or looking at the Sun, having only sprinkled his mouth with water will remove the defilement due to touching a dead bone.<sup>2</sup> But even in the *Manusmṛiti*, we can trace the decline of Hindu surgery, and his law forbidding any one from eating food from the hands of a doctor evidently refers to a surgeon.<sup>3</sup>

2. The interference of the priests in India, as in Europe played an important part. They began to cure diseases by spells, charms, texts and drugs; and temples have served as consulting rooms for the treatment as much of the diseases

<sup>1</sup> दिवाकीर्त्तिमुद्रकां च पतितं सूतिकां तथा ।

शवं तत्स्पृष्टिनं चैव स्पृष्ट्वा स्नानेन शुध्यति ॥

The Institutes of Manu, Ch. V, 85.

<sup>2</sup> नारं स्पृष्ट्वास्थिं सस्नेहं स्नात्वा विप्रो विशुध्यति ।

आचम्येव तु निस्नेहं गामालभ्यार्कमौक्ष्यवा ॥

Ibid, Ch. V, 87.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, Ch. III, 152 ; Ch. IV, vs. 212 and 220.



of the body as of the soul. The example of such a temple we still find in Tārakeśvar where many sick people repair to have their maladies cured by dreams, hypnotic suggestions and incubation or temple-sleep. Similar practice was prevalent in Egypt and Greece in olden times. The modern practice of using galvanic rings and abdominal belts is merely an advanced method of indulging in superstitious ideas.

3. The patients always dreaded the surgeon's knife—especially when the use of a general anæsthetic was unknown. At the same time, the comparative success of poultices, actual and potential cauteries, and other external applications have influenced the lay mind that operations by knife are not always needed.<sup>1</sup> The Hindu surgeons themselves believed in similar tenets, for Suśruta, the surgeon, remarks that “of all cutting instruments and their substitutes, caustics (or vegetable alkalies) are the most important, because by means of them, deep and superficial incisions and scarifications may be made, and derangements of the three humours (air, bile and phlegm) may be rectified”; and again he says that “with

<sup>1</sup> दिव्यौषधिं विना देवि शस्त्रविद्या सुनिष्फला ।  
 वैरूप्यं कुरुते या च दुश्चिकित्स्ये व्यधान्तरे ॥  
 जायन्ते हि यथार्शांसि पाटितानि पुनः पुनः ।  
 किं तत्र शस्त्रसाध्यं स्यात् सुसिद्धैर्भेषजैर्विना ॥  
 धातुनां व्यापदि यच्च भेषजं नैव सिद्ध्यति ।  
 ह्याभये दुस्तरे तस्मिन् शस्त्रमेव विधीयते ॥  
 पुनः संशमनं तत्र धातुनाम् हि प्रशान्तये ।  
 प्रदातव्यं महादेवि शस्त्रादर्वाक् ब्रवीमि ते ॥

regard to surgical treatment, actual cautery is said to be superior to caustics, in as much as diseases treated with the actual cautery do not reappear, and because it can cure diseases which are incurable by medicines, instruments and caustics.”<sup>1</sup> Thus we see that the Hindus were partial to external applications as a cure of surgical diseases, and gradually they neglected the surgical operations—one of the most important means of acquiring knowledge in Morbid Anatomy and of testing the correctness of diagnosis, in the absence of the post mortem examinations of the cadavers. Thus not only surgery but medicine also suffered materially.

4. The Hindus always cherish a high regard for the writings of their sages, and the earliest works on medicine became the standard works and were held sacred. Any violation of their opinions was considered a sacrilege ; and all knowledge thus soon became stereotyped. In later times, none dared to question the validity of the statements contained therein, and though about three thousand years have elapsed, and though the votaries of the science are still honoured and wellpaid, the science instead of improving has markedly deteriorated. In fact, only two authors—Caraka and Suśruta—are original; the later authorities—and there is a vast number of them—were merely their servile copyists who only differed from them when they indulged in some grave errors. We have a parallel in the history of medical science in Europe, where Galen

<sup>1</sup> क्षारादग्निर्गरीयान् क्रियासु व्याखातस्तद्ग्वानां रोगानामपुनर्भावाद्भिषजशस्त्रादिर-  
साध्यानां तत्साध्यत्वाच्च ।



held his sway over the profession for about two thousand years.

5. One of the potent causes of progressive decadence in the knowledge and practice of surgery amongst the Hindus is the rapid spread of Buddhism in India. Though Buddha sanctioned the use of the lancet in some cases, in cases of a doubtful nature he prohibited the use of instruments in the treatment of even surgical diseases. For example, he allowed the surgical treatment of boils by knife,<sup>1</sup> but he prohibited not only the use of the lancet for treatment of fistula-in-ano but the use of clysters also.<sup>2</sup> As it would be interesting to know the reasons of this prohibition, I quote the story in full from the Mohāvāgga ( Sacred Books of the East ) :<sup>3</sup>

1. Now when the Blessed One had remained at Sāvattthi as long as he thought fit, he went forth on his journey to Râgagaha ; and wandering straight on he arrived at Râgagaha ; and there at Râgagaha he stayed at the Veluvana in the Kalandaka-nivâpa.

Now at that time a certain Bhikkhu was suffering from fistula. And the physician (named) Âkâsa-gotta lanced it. And the Blessed One when he was going round through the sleeping-places came to the place where that Bhikkhu dwelt.

2. Âkâsa-gotta, the physician, saw the Blessed One coming from afar ; and when he saw him he said to the Blessed One : ‘ Let the venerable Gotama come and look at this Bhikkhu’s orifice ;

<sup>1</sup> Mohāvāgga, VI. 14. 4 & 5.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, VI. 22. 3.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, VI. 22.



it is like the mouth of an iguana !' And the Blessed One thinking, 'This foolish fellow is making fun of me,' kept silence and turned away. And in that connection, and on account of that, he called a meeting of the Bhikkhu-saṃgha, and asked the Bhikkhus: 'Is there, O Bhikkhus, in that Vihāra a Bhikkhu who is sick ?'

'There is, Lord.'

'What is the matter, O Bhikkhus, with that Bhikkhu ?'

'That venerable one, Lord, has a fistula, and Âkāsa-gotta the physician, has been lancing it.'

3. The Blessed Buddha rebuked (that Bhikkhu), saying, 'This is improper, O Bhikkhus, for that foolish one, unbecoming, indecent, unworthy of Samanas, not allowable and ought not to be done. How can this foolish fellow, O Bhikkhus, allow a surgical operation to be performed in that part of his body? The skin there, O Bhikkhus, is tender, the wound is difficult to treat, the knife is difficult to guide. This will not redound, O Bhikkhus, to the conversion of the unconverted.'

And having rebuked him, the Blessed One, after delivering a religious discourse, said to the Bhikkhus: 'You are not, O Bhikkhus, to allow a surgical operation to be performed upon you in that part of your bodies. Whosoever allows that, is guilty of *thullakkaya* offence.'

4. Now at that time Khabbaggiya Bhikkhus, since a surgical operation had been forbidden by the Blessed One, used a clyster.

They told this thing to the Blessed One.





‘Is it true, as they say, O Bhikkhus, that the Khabbaggiya Bhikkhus use a clyster?’

‘It is true, my Lord.’

He rebuked them, and having delivered a religious discourse, said to the Bhikkhus: ‘No surgical operation is to be performed within a distance of two inches round the anus, and a clyster is not to be used. Whoever does so, is guilty of a *thullakkaya* offence.’

And thus we find that Jīvaka, the famous surgeon, is said to have cured a case of fistula-in-ano by the single application of an ointment.<sup>1</sup> The operation fell into such disuse that when Śaṅkarāchāryya suffered from the same disease, no surgical aid was thought necessary by the physicians, though it is said that he was treated by renowned doctors of the time.<sup>2</sup>

From Megasthenes, we learn that “among the Sarmans the Hylobioi (living in woods) were held in most honour, and next to them the physicians, who are mendicants and also ascetics, like the class above them and the class below them,

<sup>1</sup> “And Gīvaka Komārabhakkā healed the fistula of the Magadha King Seniya Bimbisāra by one anointing.”

Mohāvāgga (Sacred Books of the East), VIII. 1. 15.

<sup>2</sup> अचिकित्स्यभगन्दरात्परीगप्रसरन्क्षीणितपङ्क्तिस्त्रशाब्दां ।

अजुगुप्स्यविशोधनादिरूपां परिचर्यामकृताऽस्य तीटकार्यः ॥

\* \* \* \* \*

निगदिते मुनिनेति भिषग्वरा विदधिरि बहुधागदसत्क्रियाः ।

न च शशाम गदीवहुतापदीविमनसः पटवी भिषजीऽभवन् ॥

which consisted of sorcerers and fortune-tellers;"<sup>1</sup> and Strabo<sup>2</sup> mentions that these physicians "cured diseases by diet rather than by medicinal remedies, which were chiefly unguents and cataplasms."<sup>3</sup>

6. No science can flourish without the support of the government of the day. The Hindus became a subject race; and any departure from the traditional store of knowledge in the shape of improvement in the quality and additions to its quantity was neither tolerated by the people, who are proverbially conservative, nor countenanced by the royal court, for the conquerors brought with them and patronised their own hakeems and doctors. Neither the Mahomedans nor the English have taken any real interest in the Indian Medical Science from preconcieved notions that it contains nothing worthy of their perusal. The *Kavirajes* again are so conservative in their opinions that they can not boldly advocate even the use of such drugs as are of unquestionable value in the treatment of diseases, as for example the use of Quinine in Malaria. To this may be contrasted the behaviour of Bhāvamiśra, who lived about three hundred years back and who adopted many medicaments of foreign origin. The consequence can easily be imagined, and in the language of Elphinstone, can be thus described: "Physicians follow the practice of their instructor without inquiry, and surgery is so far neglected, that bleeding is left to the barber, bone-setting to the herdsman, and every one is ready to administer

<sup>1</sup> The Invasion of Alexander the Great. M'Crindle. Appendices. p. 358.

<sup>2</sup> Geography, XV. i. 58-60.

<sup>3</sup> The Invasion of Alexander the Great, M'Crindle. Appendices. p. 368-69.



a blister, which is done with the juice of the euphorbium and still oftner with the actual cautery."<sup>1</sup>

But we need not enlarge any further. The object of this essay is not to write out an exhaustive dissertation on the Hindu medical science but by a few suggestive facts, however imperfect and fragmentary, to stimulate curiosity and divert attention of the diligent scholars to a vast field of research, which seems as yet to have been only partially explored.

It is proper here to acknowledge that I have on all occasions freely availed myself of the labours of Drs. Wise, Thakore Saheb of Gondal, and the translators of *Suśruta Saṁhitā* in the *Bibliotheca Indica*, namely, Dutt and Hoernle. It is a great pity that this translation has not as yet progressed beyond three fasciculi. Hoernle's recent contribution, "Osteology of the Hindus," is a move in the right direction and we hope it to be followed by similar enquiries in other branches of the science. Royle for the first time proved beyond doubt the high antiquity of Hindu medicine, and established its right position in the history of the science. Wise is the pioneer of systematic research in this field of study, and his sympathetic appreciation of the Hindu system of medicine will always be remembered with gratitude by our countrymen. Dutt's *Materia Medica of the Hindus* is a work of great merit; and I have derived material assistance from the excellent treatise, "History of Aryan Medical Science," by the Thakore Saheb of Gondal. Dr. Ray's *History of Hindu Chemistry* is a valuable contribution in the cognate subject of chemistry. I have borrowed from these writers largely, but

<sup>1</sup> Elphinstone's *History of India*, 5th Ed., p. 160.



I flatter myself it will also be found that I have further collected from various sources a store of valuable information, for which I am in no way indebted to any of my predecessors in the same field of research. The descriptions of the surgical instruments of the Greeks, the Romans and the Arabs, I have taken from the excellent English translations of Paulus Ægineta, the Extant Works of Ætius and the Genuine Works of Hippocrates, prepared by the renowned Adams, for the Sydenham Society. I have also laid the recent monograph, "Surgical instruments in Greek and Roman times" by Dr. Milne, largely under contribution; I only regret that I had no access to the book a little earlier, otherwise much of my labour in search for descriptions of the instruments of the Greeks would have been saved. For the last five years, I have been engaged on this investigation and it was when I had nearly finished, that Milne's book was mentioned to me by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Asutosh Mookerjee, the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University and the President of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

To complete the subject, I have added plates of nearly all the varieties of instruments; but they are more or less hypothetical as we do not possess any actual specimens of the instruments of the Hindus. Written descriptions of surgical instruments are uninteresting and often fail to convey the true idea, which could be easily made evident by the pencil. For purposes of comparison I have given drawings of instruments of the Greeks, the Romans and the Arabs, when I thought that they might be of value for the proper elucidation of my subject. I am indebted to many authors



I am indebted to many authors for some of the engravings of the instruments. I have been careful to give the source whence the borrowed ones are taken, as far as I have been able to ascertain them. If this has been omitted in any case, it is from inadvertence, not from design. My best thanks are due to them and I here acknowledge my indebtedness to the authors for availing myself of their labours without their permission. But many new illustrations will be found, and I have appended my name to those drawn by myself. These figures of the surgical instruments would be found to tally better with the descriptions of the instruments given in the Sanskrit books than the illustrations of the previous authors. The drawings of surgical instruments as given by me would look more like the figures in a modern catalogue of surgical instruments. Some of my friends could hardly believe when they saw the plates that these instruments were known to the ancient Hindus at such an early age. This feeling of amazement and incredulity as regards the surgical instruments used by the ancient Hindus has its parallel in the observations of Billroth<sup>1</sup> about the surgical instruments found in the excavations at Pompeii and now preserved in the museum at Naples. He says: "It made a peculiar impression upon me, when I saw before me this two thousand years old surgical armamentarium of a Roman colleague, differing but slightly in the form of the more ordinary instruments from those of our time. *Ars longa vita brevis.*" Milne<sup>2</sup> also remarks: "The works of those (Paré, Scultetus and Heister) are profusely illustrated with instruments, some of which can plainly be seen to tally exactly with the descriptions of the classical authors."

<sup>1</sup> Billroth's Surgery, Vol. I, Introduction, Page 7. Syd. Soc. Ed.

<sup>2</sup> Græco-Roman Surgical Instruments, P. 8.

In describing the surgical instruments, I have confined myself strictly to the texts of the authors and commentators whom I have quoted, and have given the original Sanskrit passages in the foot-notes. These will be of great help to scholars who will try to study the subject at first hand, and prosecute further historical inquiries. The references in the foot-notes do not refer to pages of any particular edition of the work, as such pagination causes inconvenience to the readers who may not secure the edition in question; so we have given the section, and chapter of the book which will be found in any edition.

In the translations of Sanskrit passages, I have endeavoured to follow the original as closely as possible, except where a somewhat free rendering was necessary to make the meaning clear.

The dates of the ancient Hindu authors of Sanskrit medical books cannot be ascertained with certainty. In the first chapter I have endeavoured to discuss briefly their approximate ages. But as I have compared the surgical instruments of the ancient Hindus with those of the Greeks, Romans and Arabs, a concise summary of the chronological dates of the Græco-Roman, Arab, and the later authors would be a great help in the proper elucidation of my text.

<i>Authors.</i>	<i>Date.</i>
Pythagoras ...	580-504 B.C.
Megasthenes ...	300 B.C.
Ktesias ...	400 B.C.
Hippocrates ...	460 B.C.
Hero of Alexandria ...	285-222 B.C.





<i>Authors.</i>	<i>Date.</i>
Dioscorides ...	First century A.D.
Celsus ...	25-30 B.C. to 45-50 A.D.
Scribonius Largus ...	45 A.D.
Soranus ...	First century A.D.
Rufus of Ephesus ...	98-117 A.D.
Galen ...	131-201 A.D.
Marcellus Empiricus ...	300 A.D.
Antyllus ...	3rd century, A.D.
Oribasius ...	326-403 A.D.
Theodore Priscianus ...	4th century A.D.
Caelius Aurelianus...	4th or 5th century A.D.
Moschion ...	5th century A.D.
Actius... ...	5th century A.D.
Alexendar of Tralles ...	525-605 A.D.
Paulus Ægineta ...	660 A.D.
Serapion ...	800 A.D.
Rhazes ...	850-932 A.D.
Haly Abbas ...	After 950 A.D.
Avicenna ...	980-1037 A.D.
Abul Cassim ...	x 1106 A.D.
Avenzoar ...	x 1162 A.D.
Paré ...	1509-90 A.D.
Sculdetus ...	1650 A.D.
Heister ...	1739 A.D.

I can not suffer this work to go forth without offering at least an explanation of, if not an apology for, the delay which has occurred in the publication of this thesis. It is mainly due to the accidental fire which reduced the types and the blocks

for this work to ashes and destroyed a part of the manuscript. This portion had to be written again. Again the task of reading proof sheets was laid on me entirely. The occupation of a laborious profession encroached on my time; and I was not fortunate enough to secure the co-operation of any worker in this field of research. The result might be anticipated and no one is more conscious of the unsatisfactory issue than myself. I had no experience in proof reading, and so mistakes are not uncommon. Some of the errors will be found corrected in the corrigenda. As regards the corrections of many of the proof sheets of the Sanskrit foot-notes I was assisted by my son Hirendranāth Mukhopādhyāya, who helped me much in getting this book completed. The author will feel obliged if informed of any errors that may be detected and of references to informations which ought to have been given, and also for any hints that may make a future edition more useful to the readers. But I have this consolation in my mind that I have not pushed this work through the press hurriedly or prefunctorily and I have done my best. I have laboured with the usual drawbacks of an active professional life and if this be admitted by the critic as an excuse for errors and failures, I shall be grateful to him.

A copious index has been provided for this work, whereby anything material in the whole book may be readily found out; of which it may be said that it wants no other advantages than such as the author had not power to give.

It would not be out of place here to mention that part of this essay was read before the Asiatic Society of Bengal in June, July and August, 1908. The learned President in his annual address remarked as follows: "In the course of the last



session Dr. Girindranath Mukerjee submitted to the society a paper of considerable extent, in which he elaborately examined the subject of the surgical instruments of the ancient Hindus. The questions he has raised, as to the priority of Hindu medicine over that of the Greeks, the Romans and the Arabs, are likely to arouse controversy, but in whatever way the question of priority may be decided, it seems to me truly remarkable that the descriptions given in our most ancient books on medicine, of the surgical Instruments then in use, should bear a close resemblance to the descriptions given not only in Greek, Roman and Arab medical writings but in many cases with the descriptions given in modern works on surgery. I trust that this subject, so peculiarly Indian, will not be left alone and will receive the attention from investigators which it undoubtedly deserves."<sup>1</sup>

As regards the transliteration of Sanskrit words, we have employed the method adopted in the Congress of Orientalists and circulated in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, ignoring in fact, the unpleasant characters of the Sacred Book of the East.

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<sup>1</sup> Journal and Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. V, 1909, Annual Address, p. XXX.



## I

## SANSKRIT AND ALLIED ALPHABETS.

अ . . . . . a	ओ . . . . . o	ट . . . . . ṭ	ब . . . . . b
आ . . . . . ā	औ . . . . . au	ठ . . . . . ṭh	भ . . . . . bh
इ . . . . . i	क . . . . . k	ड . . . . . ḍ	म . . . . . m
ई . . . . . ī	ख . . . . . kh	ढ . . . . . ḍh	य . . . . . y
उ . . . . . u	ग . . . . . g	ण . . . . . ṇ	र . . . . . r
ऊ . . . . . ū	घ . . . . . gh	त . . . . . t	ल . . . . . l
ऋ . . . . . ṛ	ङ . . . . . ṅ	थ . . . . . th	व . . . . . v
ॠ . . . . . ṝ	च . . . . . c	द . . . . . d	श . . . . . ś
ऌ . . . . . ḷ	छ . . . . . ch	ध . . . . . dh	ष . . . . . ṣ
ॡ . . . . . ḹ	ज . . . . . j	न . . . . . n	स . . . . . s
ए . . . . . e	झ . . . . . jh	प . . . . . p	ह . . . . . h
ऐ . . . . . ai	ञ . . . . . ñ	फ . . . . . ph	ळ . . . . . ḷ

˙ (Anusvāra) . . . . . ṁ	˘ (Avagraha) . . . . . ˘
ˆ (Anunāsika) . . . . . ṃ	Udātta . . . . . ˆ
: (Visarga) . . . . . ḥ	Svarita . . . . . ˜
× (Jihvāmūliya) . . . . . ḥ	Anudātta . . . . . ˘
∞ (Upadhmānīya) ḥ	





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and commentaries. Vāgbhaṭa I,—Aṣṭāṅga Saṁgraha, his age, edition and commentary; Vāgbhaṭ II: Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, editions and commentaries; Vagbhaṭā III—Rasa Ratna Samuccaya; Mādhavakara :—Nidāna; Vṛnda Madhava :—Siddhayoga; Cakrapāṇi-datta :—Cikitsāsāra Saṁgraha, editions; Śārāṅgadhara:—Śārāṅgadhara Saṁgraha, editions and commentary; Bhāva Miśra :—Bhava Prakāśa, editions.

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  - Vṛkamukha or Wolf forceps.
  - Tarakṣumukha or Hyena forceps.
  - Ṛkāmukha or Bear forceps.
  - Dwipimukha or Panther forceps.
  - Mārjāramukha or Cat forceps.
  - Śṛgālamukha or Jackal forceps.
  - Airbbāruka or Deer forceps.
  - Kākamukha or Crow forceps.
  - Kaṅkamukha or Heron forceps.
  - Kuraramukha or Osprey forceps.
  - Cāsamukha or Blue-Jay forceps.
  - Bhāsamukha or Eagle forceps.
  - Śaśaghātīmukha or Hawk forceps.
  - Ulukamukha or owl forceps.
  - Cillimukha or Kite forceps.
  - Syenamukha or Vulture forceps.
  - Gṛdhramukha or Falcon forceps.



Krauñcamukha or Curlew forceps. Bhṛṅgarājā-  
 mukha or Butcher-bird forceps. Añjalikarṇa  
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 like forceps: Forceps with and without  
 handles. Forceps with Smooth and rough ends.  
 Epilation forceps. Mucuṭī or Mucundī.  
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 Trimukha. Tubular instruments for inspec-  
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 Uttaravasti or urethral, vaginal and uterine  
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 of rooms, clothes &c. Tubular instru-  
 ments for cupping. Śṛṅga or horn. Alābu  
 Yantra or gourd. Ghati Yantra. V. Śalākā





or rods: Earthworm probes. Arrow probe. Snake's hood probe. Fish-hook probes. The Śaṅkus; Swab probe. Spathomele or spatula probe. Spoon-shaped probes. Cyathiscomele. Nail-shaped probes. Jāmavauṣṭha probe. Gamma-shaped probe and the aṅkuśa cautery. Collyrium probes. Karṇa Śodhana or Ear-cleaner. Garbha-Śaṅku or Foetus or Traction hook. Yujña-Śaṅku or Midwifery forceps. Sarpa-faṇa or snake's hood-like rods. Stone extractor. Hippocratic oath. Sarapuṅkha-mukha Probe. Arddhacandramukha or Half-moon Probe. Bone Lever. Director. Urethral Probe. • VI. The Upayantra or Accessory Instruments. Rajju or thread, Venikā or twine; Paṭṭa or Bandages, Abdominal binder, Field Hospital, Dressings. Carma or leather: leather bandage, leather ligatures. Yantra-Śaṭaka or Lithotomy Strap or binding apparatus, Pāśa. Leather bags. Śīrovasti or leather-bag for the head. Leather Band. Leather Bottles, Jars, etc. Antarvalkala or Barks. The crutches, Tendrils of creepers or Latā. Vastra or cloth. Aṣṭhilāṣma or stone. Mudgara or Hammer. Pāṇipadātala or hand and foot. Aṅguli or fingers. Jihvā or tongue. Danta or tooth. Nakha or nails. Mukha or mouth. Vāla or hair. Probang. Suture material. Aśvakāṭaka or the ring of a horse's bridle. Śākhā or branch of a tree. Sṭhivana or spittle. Pravāhana or fluxing the patient. Har a or Happiness. Ayaskānta or Load-stone. Kṣāra or Caustics or Potential cautery. Agni or Actual cautery. Bhesaja or medicines. Goats' gut; Arrest of hæmorrhage.



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# CORRIGENDA.

Page	ii	F. N. 3		
"	xi	Para 5		
"	xi	...	F. N. 1	
"	xiii	...	" 1	} read Mahāvagga for Mohāvāgga.
"	82	line 4	" 1	
"	116	" 23	" 5	
"	182	" 10, 15	" 2	
"	x	" 10	...	
"	202	" 1 of para. 5	...	
"	203	" 2 & last line	...	
"	262	" 12	...	
"	308	...	" 1	} " diagnosis " diagonosis.
"	317	" 10	...	
"	319	...	" 3	
"	320	" 5	" 1	
"	xiii	...	" 2	
"	xv	...	...	" Vijaya " Vejoya.
"	3	...	" 1 & 2	Bibliotheca " Bibliotheca.
"	303	...	" 1	" Macdonell " Macdonnel.
"	4	...	" 1	" Dārila " Dārīta.
"	17	... 7	...	" Bhānumati " Vānumati.
"	27	item 8	...	" Rabi " Robi.
"	30	...	" 1	} " Archæo " Archæo.
"	12	...	" 3	
"	31	...	...	" Śārīngadhara " Śārangadhara.
"	35	... 13 }	...	} " Skilful " Skillful.
"	40	" 8 }	...	
"	37	" 11	...	" Sesame " Sesame.
"	39	" 23	...	" Bhūrja " Bhūrya.
"	40	" 14	...	" Water and " Water,
			Mortar	Mortar.
"	70	"	" 3	} " Vṛddha " Vṛddhya.
"	71	"	" 1 & 3	
"	87	... 2 & 4	...	} " Kapāṭa " Kapāṭa.
"	88	" 13	...	
"	99	" 8	...	" Pālakāpya " Pālakāpya.
"	109	" 8	...	" Śālya " Śālya.
"	117	" 5	...	" bamboo " bambu.
"	119	" 19	...	" Barnes' " Barnes.
"	120	" 21	...	" Sorts " Shorts.



Page 159	line 13	...	read	Jāmvovauṣṭha	for	Jamvovouṣṭha.
" 178	item 10	...	"	Cīna	"	China.
" 181	...	" 2	"	Obstetric	"	Obstetire.
" 196	line 12	...	"	Gayadāsa	"	Gayadāssa.
" 219	" 14	...	"	Sesamum	"	Seasum.
" 219	" 21	...	"	effectual	"	offectual.
" 221	item 3	...	"	Pācana	"	Pāchana.
" 242	line 2	...	"	Parietes	"	Parietis.
" 262	" 10	...	"	Round...four	"	four cornered...
				cornered		.....round.
" 285	" 15	...	"	Hippo	"	Hyppo.
" 295	" 3	...	"	Requisites	"	Requisities.
" 306	" 11	...	"	Yaṣṭhi	"	Yaṣṭi.
" 311	item 2	...	"	octagonal	"	octogonal.
" 328	" 3	...	"	hātā	"	hata.
" 331	line 18	...	"	Jolly	"	Jolley.
" 340	" 5	...	"	Physician	"	Physian.
" 346	" 18	...	"	amber	"	ambar.
" 348	" 2	...	"	Paitamaha	"	Paitāmoha.
" 352	" 22	...	"	Firoz	"	Firroz.
" 354	" 11	...	"	Areca	"	Arecha.
" 355	" 12	...	"	Dvārusita	"	Davrusita.



## WORKS BY THE AUTHOR.

1. Muscles of the Human Body, arranged in Tabular forms.  
Fourth Edition. Re. 1

2. Tropical Abscess of the Liver.

Thesis approved for the degree of Doctorate in Medicine,  
Madras University. Rs. 5

3. Glossary of Indigenous Medicinal Plants.

(In the Press)

4. Notices, Biographical and Bibliographical, of the Indian  
Physicians and their Works on Medicine.

(In the Press)

5. Medicine in the Vedic times.

(In preparation)

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# THE Surgical Instruments of the Hindus.

## CHAPTER I.

### INTRODUCTION.

#### ANCIENT MEDICAL AUTHORS AND THEIR WORKS.

The Science and Art of Medicine, like many other different branches of learning originated with the Hindus. They consider the art of healing as an Upaveda and it is generally known as Āyurveda, that is the art of prologing life. Like the Vedas, they trace the origin of the science to God, the fountain of all true knowledge. Bramhā transmitted this heaven-born science to this world for benefit of the mortals in one of the sacred writings, the Āyurveda.

It was composed as a sub-division of the Atharva Veda and consisted originally of a *lākh slokas* or a hundred thousand stanzas, divided into a thousand chapters. Then considering the short span of life and inadequate intelligence of man, he divided the book into eight parts<sup>1</sup> as follows :—

<sup>1</sup> तद्यथा ॥ शल्यं शलाक्यं कायचिकित्सा भूतविद्या कौमारभृत्यमगदतन्त्रम्  
रसायनतन्त्रं वाजीकरणतन्त्रमिति ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. i.

कायचिकित्सा शलाक्यं शल्यहर्तृकं विषगरवैरीधिकप्रशसनं भूतविद्या कौमारभृत्यकं  
रसायनानि वाजीकरणमिति ।

Caraka Saṁhitā, I. xxx.

वेदी ह्याथर्वणः स्वस्थयनवल्लिमङ्गलहोमनियमप्रायश्चित्तोपवासमन्त्रादिपरिग्रहात् चिकित्सा  
प्राह ।

Ibid.

1. Śalya Tantra or Major Surgery.
2. Śālākya Tantra or Surgery of parts above the Clavicles.
3. Kāya Cikitsā or Inner Medicine.
4. Bhūtvidyā or Demnology.
5. Kaumārabhr̥tya or the Science of Pædiatrics.
6. Agada or Toxicology.
7. Rasāyana or Treatment to prolong life.
8. Vājīkaraṇa or Treatment to stimulate the sexual power.

The book is no more available now, Suśruta being the authority for the above information.<sup>1</sup>

A different view is held by others, who trace the origin of Hindu Medicine in the verses of the R̥gveda.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> इह खल्वयुर्वेदी नाम यदुपाङ्गमथर्ववेदस्यानुत्पादैव प्रजाः श्लोकशतसहस्र-  
मध्यायसहस्रञ्च कृतवान् स्वयम्भूः। ततोऽन्यायुद्धमल्पमेधस्ताञ्चावलीक्य नराणां भूयोऽष्टधा  
प्रणीतवान् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. i.

तत्र चेत् प्रष्टारः स्याः चतुर्णां कसामयजुरथर्ववेदानां कं वेदमुपदिशन्त्यायुर्वेदविदः।  
किमायुः कस्मादायुर्वेदः किञ्चायमायुर्वेदः शाश्वतोऽशाश्वत इति। कानि चासाङ्गानि  
कथायमधिरतव्यः किमर्थं चेति ॥

तत्र भिषजा पृष्ठे नैवं चतुर्णां कसामयजुरथर्ववेदानाम् आत्मनीऽथर्ववेदे भक्तिरादृश्या।

Caraka Saṁhitā, I. xxx.

The origin of medical science, as quoted in the above passage of Caraka, does not however agree with the view expressed by the author in the Sūtra Sthāna, Ch. I. (See footnote 1. P. 4). In Ch. XXX, we find that an attempt had been made to make a compromise between the two views of Agniveśa and Suśruta. Evidently this was the work of a later redactor, possibly Dr̥ḍhavalā.

न ह्यायुर्वेदस्यभूत्तित्तरूपलभ्यते। अन्यत्राववीधीपदेशाभ्यामेतद्वै इयमधिकृत्य उत्पत्ति-  
मुपदिशत्येके स्वाभाविकञ्चास्य लक्षणमधिकृत्य यदुक्तम् इह चाद्येचाभ्याये \* \* \*

<sup>2</sup> ऋग्वेदस्यायुर्वेद उपवेदः।

Caraka Saṁhitā, I. xxx.

Caraka Vyūha by Vyāsa.



## ATHARVA VEDA.

“On examining the contents of the Atharva Veda more in detail, we find that the hostile charms it contains are directed largely against various diseases or the demons which are supposed to cause them. There are spells to cure fever (takmān), leprosy, jaundice, dropsy, scrofula, cough, ophthalmia, baldness, lack of vital power, fractures and wounds; the bite of snakes or injurious insects, and poison in general; mania and other ailments. These charms are accompanied by the employment of appropriate herbs. Hence the Atharva Veda is the oldest literary monument of Indian Medicine.”<sup>1</sup> This Veda can not belong to a period later than 1000 B. C., but possibly earlier.<sup>2</sup> It exists in the recensions of two different schools. That of the Paippalāda is only known in manuscript, discovered by Prof. Buhler in Kashmir and described by Prof. Roth in his tract *Der Atharva Veda in Kaschmir* (1875). The printed text, edited by Roth and Whitney in Berlin 1856, gives the recension of the Śaunaka School.<sup>3</sup> It has been translated into English Prose by Whitney, 2 Vols.; into English verse by Griffith, 2 Vols., Benares, 1897, and with the omission of the unimportant

<sup>1</sup> McDonnell's Sanskrit Literature, P. 196.

अथर्ववेदस्य \* \* \* \* चतुर्थं वेदत्वेऽपि प्रायेणाभिचारद्वयत्वादयज्ञविद्यायामनुप-  
योगाच्चानिर्देशः। तथाहि ऋग्वेदेनैव हौत्रं कुर्वन् यजुर्वेदेनाध्वर्यवं सामवेदेनौद्गात्रं  
यदेव चयै विद्याय सूक्तन्तेन ब्रह्मत्वमितिश्रुते स्वयीसम्पाद्यत्वं यज्ञानां ज्ञायते।

Kallūka Bhaṭṭa's Commentary on Manu Samhitā, Ch. III, Śloka I.

<sup>2</sup> On the date of Atharva Veda, see pp. CXL—CLXI, Prof. Lanman's Edition of Whitney's Transl.; Prof. McDonnell's Sanskrit Literature, pp. 185—201.

<sup>3</sup> Index Vervorum in the Journal of the Am. Or. Soc. Vol. XII.



hymns, by Bloomfield<sup>1</sup> into English Prose, with notes, in Vol. XLIII of the Sacred Books of the East.

### CARAKA SAMĤITĀ.

In the Caraka Samĥitā we find that Brahmā taught Dakṣa the science of medicine; Dakṣa became the preceptor of the Aśvin twins; they in their turn became the teachers of Indra and Indra imparted this knowledge to Bharadvāja who was sent by a conclave of sages to learn the art for the welfare of the human race.<sup>2</sup> Bharadvāja had Punarvasu Ātreya and the others as disciples. Ātreya's students were Agniveśa, Bhela, Jatukarna, Parāśara, Hārīta and Kṣārapaṇi, all of whom became celebrated as the authors of treatises on Medicine; the Caraka Samĥitā being a revised and improved edition of the treatise of Agniveśa, which was declared to be the best production.<sup>3</sup> Caraka did not, however, redact the whole

<sup>1</sup> He has also edited the Kauśika Sūtra of the Atharva Veda, with extracts from the commentaries of Dārīta and Keśava (see Vol. XIV Journ. Am. Orient. Soc.). It is very useful as a help to the proper understanding of the meaning of a hymn.

<sup>2</sup> दीर्घक्रीवितमखिच्छन् भरद्वाज उपागमत् ।  
इन्द्रमुद्यतपा बुद्धा शरख्यसमरेश्वरम् ॥  
ब्रह्मणा हि यथा प्रीतमायुर्व्वेदं प्रजापतिः ।  
जयाह निखिलिनादावश्विनो तु पुनस्ततः ॥  
अश्विभ्यां भगवान् शक्रः प्रतिपेदे ह केवलम् ।  
ऋषिप्रीती भरद्वाजस्तस्माच्छक्रमुपागमत् ॥

Caraka Samĥitā, I. i.

<sup>3</sup> अथ मेचीपरः पुण्यमायुर्व्वेदं पुनर्व्वसुः ।  
शिष्येभ्यो दत्तवान् षडभ्यः सर्व्वभूतानुकम्पया ॥  
अग्निवेशश्च भेलश्च जतुकर्णः पराशरः ।  
हारीतः चारपाणिश्च जगद्भुस्तमुनेर्व्वचः ॥  
बुद्धेर्विशेषस्तचासीन्नोपदेशान्तरं मुनेः ।  
तन्वस्य कर्त्ता प्रथममग्निवेशी यतोऽभवत् ॥  
अथ भेलादयश्च स्वं स्वं तन्वं कृतानि च ।  
श्रान्त्र्यामासुरावेयं सर्पिसङ्घं सुमेधसः ॥

Ibid, I. i.



book;—the last forty-four chapters<sup>1</sup> were edited by Drḍhavalā,<sup>2</sup> a native of Panchanadapura, long supposed to refer to Punjab (the land of five rivers) but at present identified with a town in Kashmir by Dr. Hoernle.<sup>3</sup> Two other works, the treatises of Bhela and Hārīta, are still extant; the former existing in manuscript in the Tanjore Library<sup>4</sup> and the latter as printed texts by *Kavirājes* K. C. Sen and B. L. Sen, of Calcutta.<sup>5</sup>

Now as regards the age of Caraka, there is great divergence of opinions. The Indians generally believe him to be a Rṣi of great antiquity while the European scholars try

<sup>1</sup> For a discussion on the part added by Drḍhavalā, see Hoernle's *Studies in Ancient Indian Medicine*, J. R. A. S. 1908, P. 997-1002. Also see pp. 11-15 in the *Vanaśadhi Darpaṇa*, Vol. I., by Kavirāja Birajā Charan Gupta, 1908.

<sup>2</sup> अतस्तन्वीतममिदं चरकेणातिवृद्धिना ।

संस्कृतं तत् तु संखटं विभागेनीपलक्ष्यते ॥

इदमन्यूनशब्दार्थं तन्वं दीषविवर्जितं ।

अखण्डार्थं दृढवली जातः पञ्चनदे पूरे ॥

कृत्वा बहुभ्यस्तन्वेभ्यो विशेषाच्च वलीक्षयम् ।

सप्तदशोषधाध्यायसिद्धिकल्पैरपूरयत् ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VIII, xii.

अस्मिन् सप्तदशाध्यायाः कल्पाः लिङ्ग्य एव च ।

नासाद्यन्तेऽग्निवेशस्य तन्वे चरकसंस्कृते ॥

तानेतान् कापिलवलः शेषान् दृढवलीऽकरोत् ।

तन्वस्यास्य महार्थस्य पूरणार्थं यथातथम् ॥

Ibid, VI, xxx.

<sup>3</sup> Hoernle's *Studies in the Medicine of Ancient India*, Part I, Osteology, Introduction, p. 2. See also his article on "The authorship of Caraka Saṁhitā" in the *Archiv für die Geschichte der Medizin*, 1907.

<sup>4</sup> See Burnell's Tanjore Catalogue No. 10773 of Sanskrit Mss., P. 63.

<sup>5</sup> It is doubtful whether the Hārīta Saṁhitā is the genuine work of the Rṣi, Hārīta. The printed text refers to Caraka, Suśruta and even Vāgbhata, who were decidedly posterior to Hārīta, See the Footnote 3, P. 6.



to connect him with historical events of more modern times. Sylvain Lévi has recently discovered in the Chinese Translation of the Buddhist *Tripitaka* that Caraka was the Court Physician of the Indo-Scythian King Kaniska, in the first century A.D.<sup>1</sup> But the following objections are to be met with before his conclusions can be accepted as proved :—

1. The age of Kaniska is not yet settled, the probable limits of his reign being from the first century B. C. to the second century A. D.<sup>2</sup> Moreover in the Buddhist *Tripitaka* referred to, the name of Caraka is simply mentioned as the Court Physician of the King Kaniska but there is nothing to identify him with the author of the book. The same name, found in different places, does by no means signify the same person.

2. The time assigned to Caraka by the Indian medical tradition is of great antiquity. With regard to the chronological position of the three old authors, he is mentioned as anterior to Suśruta and Vāgbhaṭa I.<sup>3</sup>

3. Dr. Rāy has pointed out that the name Caraka is patronymic in the Veda.<sup>4</sup> It is quite possible that a much

<sup>1</sup> See Journal Asiatique—July to December 1896, p. 444 to 484 and January to June 1897, p. 5 to 42; also Indian Antiquary Vol. XXXII, 1903, p. 382 and Viena Oriental Journal, Vol. XI., p. 164.

<sup>2</sup> See V. A. Smith's Early History of India, P. 225-26.

Dr. Fleet in J. R. A. S., 1906, P. 979.

Dr. Bhandarkar in J. R. A. S. (Bombay Branch), Vol. XX, P. 269.

J. A. S. B. Vol. XXXIX, 1870, p. 65 and 126.

<sup>3</sup> चरकः सुश्रुतश्चैव वाग्भटश्च तथापरः ।

मुख्याश्च संहिता वाच्यास्त्रिस्त एव युगे युगे ॥

अत्रिः कृतयुगे वैद्यो द्वापरे सुश्रुतो मतः ।

कलौ वाग्भटनामा च गरिमाव प्रदृश्यते ।

Hārta Saṁhitā, Pariśiṣṭādhāya.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. P. C. Rāy's History of Hindu Chemistry, Introduction, P. X.



later namesake of his, is referred to by the *Tripitaka*, just as we know that more than one Vāgbhaṭa appeared as successful physician. Again we have evidence that eminent physicians in later times were called Caraka by way of a compliment and so Vāgbhaṭa was called Caraka of Sindh or Sindhicara.

4. Pāṇini wrote special Sūtras for the Agniveśas and the Carakas.<sup>1</sup> These names must have been famous before Pāṇini's time, otherwise he would not have written special Sūtras for them. Prof. Goldstucker has conclusively proved that Pāṇini could not have flourished later than the sixth century B. C.<sup>2</sup>

5. Patañjali wrote a commentary on Caraka.<sup>3</sup> He flourished during the second century B. C. Both Cakrapāṇidatta and Bhoja allude to him as the redactor of Caraka Saṁhitā.<sup>4</sup> So Caraka must have flourished long before him, for unless his work was regarded as a standard work of authority, Patañjali would not have taken so much pains to write notes on the book, and still more for issuing a redaction.

6. The internal evidence of the book itself speaks against such an assumption. There is no salutation to any deity at the

<sup>1</sup> कटचरकाब्रूक । Pāṇini 4. 3. 107.

गर्गादिभ्यो यञ्च ॥ Ibid, 4. 1. 105.

गर्ग । वत्स । \* \* \* \* अग्निवेश \* \* \* \* पराशर । जतुकर्ण । \* \* \* .

<sup>2</sup> Goldstucker's Pāṇini; and Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. XLII, P. 254.

<sup>3</sup> आशीनाम अनुभवेन वस्तुतत्त्वस्य कात्स्न्येन निश्चयवान्, रागादिवशादपि नात्यधावादी यः स इति चरके पतञ्जलिः ।

Quoted in Laghumañjuṣā of Nāgeśa Bhaṭṭa (Rāy).

<sup>4</sup> पातञ्जल—महाभाष्य—चरकप्रतिसंस्कृतैः ।

मनीवाक्-कायदीषाणाम् हर्षेऽहिपतये नमः ॥

Vide salutation in the Āyurvedārthadīpikā.

beginning of the book,—a custom invariably found to be observed in the more modern compilations. There is complete absence of Paurāṇic theology in the Caraka Saṁhitā, nor is there any reference to Śākya Muni and his religion. Kanīṣka was a great patron of Buddhism, and it might naturally be expected from the Court Physician of the king to describe the charitable hospitals which we know from the edict of Aśoka, to have flourished in every quarter of India. On the contrary we find descriptions of a hospital as reserved for rich men only at their own houses. Those gods and goddesses that figure so prominently in the Purāṇas were unknown during his time.<sup>1</sup> Beef was not then, apparently, a

<sup>1</sup> No doubt the names of Lakṣmī, Kṛṣṇa and Vāsudeva occur in Cikitsita Sthānam, Chapter XXV, but it should be remembered that they occur in the Supplement added by Dr̥dhavala in later times.

सर्व्वग्रहा न तव प्रभवन्ति न चाग्निश्चन्द्रनृपचौराः ।

लक्ष्मीश्च तव भजते यत्र महागन्धहृत्स्थितिः ॥

पितृमात्रेण इमं ज्ञातुं सिद्धं सन्तमूढीरयेत् ।

मम माता जया नाम विजयी नाम मे पिता ॥

सोऽहं जयी जयापुत्री विजयीऽथ जयामि च ।

नमः पुरुषसिंहाय विष्णवे विश्वकर्माणे ॥

सनातनाय कृष्णाय भवाय विभवाय च ।

तेजो वृषाकपेः साक्षात् तेजो ब्रह्मेन्द्रयोर्यमे ॥

यथाहं नाभिजानामि वासुदेवपराजयम् ।

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI, xxv.

But Kṛṣṇa and Vāsudeva are mentioned in Pāṇini as demigods, having many adherents who formed a class. “वासुदेवार्जुनाभ्यां वुन” Pāṇini, 4. 3. 98. Again the passage may be an interpolation of a subsequent *Vaiṣṇava Vaid*.

So Br̥ṣavadhva is also mentioned in Dr̥dhavala's Supplement, as a god to be worshipped during the preparation of some medicines :

ब्रह्मघोषशङ्खपटहभरीनिनादैः सिद्धं सितच्छ्वकृतच्छायं गजस्कन्धमारीपयैर्हगवन्तं  
वृषभ्वजसभिपूज्य तं स्नेहं विभागमाचिकमङ्गलाशीः स्तुतिदेवतार्चनैर्वस्तिं गमयेत् ॥

Ibid, VIII, xii.



forbidden food, for it is spoken of as an article of diet that should not be indulged daily,<sup>1</sup> nor should it be used in excessive quantity as it is mentioned as a cause of the disease, Vāta-Rakta.<sup>2</sup>

The style of the book is antiquated and decidedly savours that of the Brāhmaṇas. Nāya and Vaiśeṣiki systems occur in the text,<sup>3</sup> and so probably the book was written long before the compilation of these Sūtras.

*Editions.*—The book had undergone several editions. It was edited by Jibānanda Vidyāsāgar, Calcutta, in 1877 and 1896 (2nd Ed.) ; by Gaṅgādhar Kaviratna, Berhampur, 1879 ; by Guṇḍa, Calcutta, 1897 ; with commentary by Cakrapāṇidatta, Calcutta, 1892-93 ; by Jaśodānandana Sarkār, with Bengali translation, 1894.

*Translations.*—It had been translated into English by A. C. Kaviratna, Calcutta, 1897. Caraka was translated from Sanskrit

And we find that the antidote to poison called महागन्धहस्ती is said to have been told by Tryambaka (Śiva) to Baiśravaṇa (Kuvera):

- अगदीऽयं वैश्रवणाख्यातन्यम्बकेण षट्पदः ।

Caraka Samhitā, VI. xxv.

Also we find the name of Kārttikeya mentioned in Sec. IV. ch. viii.

असुव त्वमविक्रिष्टमविक्रिष्टा शुभानने,

कार्तिकेयद्युतिं पुत्रं कार्तिकेयाभिरचितमिति ॥

- <sup>1</sup> कुर्चिकांश्च किलाटांश्च श्लैकरं गव्यमासिधं ।

मत्नान् दधि च माषांश्च यावकांश्च न श्लेयेत् ॥

Ibid, I. v.

- <sup>2</sup> कुलत्थमाषनिष्पावशाकादिपल्लवुभिः ।

दधगारनालसर्वीरगुद्रतक्रसुरासवैः ॥

Ibid, VI. xxix.

<sup>3</sup> Vide Caraka, III. viii.

into Arabic in the beginning of the eighth century and his name "Sharaka Indianus" occurs in the Latin translations of Avicenna, Rhazes and Serapion. "A translation of the Karaka<sup>1</sup> from Sanskrit into Persian and from Persian into Arabic is mentioned in the Fihrist, (Finished 987 A.D.). It is likewise mentioned by Albērūnī<sup>2</sup>; the translation is said to have been made for the Barmekides."<sup>3</sup> Albērūnī's chief source on Medicine was "Caraka, in the Arabic Edition of Ali Ibn Zain, from Trabaristan."<sup>4</sup>

### *Commentaries.*—

1. Patañjali—2nd century B.C.—not available.
2. Cakrapāṇidatta's Caraka Tātparya Tikā, or Āyurveda-dīpikā<sup>5</sup>—1060 A.D.
3. Haricandra<sup>6</sup>—1111 A.D.—not available.
4. Śībadāsa's Caraka-Tattva-Pradīpikā.
5. Gaṅgādhara's Jalpa-Kalpa-Taru—1879 A.D.

<sup>1</sup> Proceedings of the As. Soc., Bengal, 1870, September.

<sup>2</sup> Reinaud, *Memoire sur l'Inde*, P. 316.

<sup>3</sup> Maxmuller's Science of Language, Vol. I., P. 168, Foot Note.

<sup>4</sup> Sachau's preface to India, P. XL.

<sup>5</sup> See Caraka Saṁhitā with Cakrapāṇidatta's Commentary by Kavirāja Harināth Viśārada, Calcutta, 1895.

<sup>6</sup> A Commentary written by Haricandra is referred to in the Sanskrit Ślokas narrating the geneology of Maheśvara, the author of Viśvaparakāśa and Sāhasāṅkacarita, who flourished during the reign of Sāhasāṅka, king of Gazipur in 1033 Saka (1111 A. D. Wilson).

श्रीसाहसङ्कटपतेरखद्यविद्य-

वैद्यीत्तरङ्ग पदपद्धतिमेव विभत् ।

यशन्द्रचारुचरितो हरिचन्द्रनामा

सद्ग्राह्यया चरकतत्त्वमलंकार ॥





## SUSRUTA SAMHITA.

The next treatise on Hindu Medicine is the Suśruta Samhitā. Suśruta was the son of the sage Viśvāmitra,<sup>1</sup> a contemporary of Rāma. He learned the Science of Medicine from Divodāsa, surnamed Dhanvantari, king of Benares, at his Himalayan retreat. According to Suśruta, Divodāsa was the incarnation of Dhanvantari, the celebrated physician of the gods in heaven, and he first propounded the Art of Healing in this world.<sup>2</sup> Suśruta represented the Surgical School while Caraka was pre-eminently a Physician in practice.

As regards the authorship of the book, opinions differ. To Suśruta, Dhanvantari addressed his lectures on Major Surgery,<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mahābhārata, Anuśāṣana Parva, Ch. 139, Vs. 8-11.

धन्वन्तरिर्धर्मभृतां वरिष्ठो वाग्विशारदः ।

विश्वामित्रात्मजस्य शिष्यं सुश्रुतमख्यशान् ॥

Suśruta Samhitā, V. ii.

अष्टाङ्गव्येदविदं दिवोदासं महामतिं ।

• क्षिप्रशास्त्रार्थसन्देहं सूक्ष्मागाधमिवोदधिं ।

विश्वामित्रसुतः श्रीमान् सुश्रुतः परिपृच्छति ।

Ibid, VI. lxvi.

सर्वशास्त्रार्थतत्त्वज्ञं क्षपीदृष्टिं रुदारधीः ।

वैश्वामित्रं शशासाथं शिष्यं काश्रिपतिर्मुनिः ॥

Ibid, VI. xxviii.

<sup>2</sup> अथ खलु भगवन्तममरवरसृषिगणपरिव्रतमाश्रमस्थं काशिराजं दिवोदासं धन्वन्तरि-  
मोपध्वनववैतरणीरभपोष्कालावतकरवीर्यगोपुररक्षितमुश्रुतप्रभृतय ऊचुः ।

Ibid, I. i.

<sup>3</sup> अत्र कस्मै किमुच्यतामिति । त ऊचुः । अस्माकं सर्वेषामेव शल्यज्ञानमूलं  
श्लोपदिशतु भगवानिति । स उवाचैवमस्मिन् । ..... अस्माकमेकमतौनां मतमभिसमीक्ष्य  
सुश्रुतो भगवन् प्रव्यति ।

Ibid, I. i.

which he reproduced in this work. But in the opening lines of the book, salutation is offered to Brahmā, Dakṣa, Aśvins, Indra, Dhanvantari, Suśruta and others.<sup>1</sup> This shows that Suśruta can not be the author of the work or at least of the work in its present shape, for no author can offer salutation to himself. By "the others" are no doubt meant the notable surgeons who practised and taught the Science of Surgery and who were either contemporary with or posterior to Suśruta. Possibly the original Suśruta Saṁhitā had been recast and the redactor could appropriately offer a salutation to the original author and to other surgeons who flourished before him. There is also an Indian medical tradition, noted in Dallanācārya's Commentary, which assigns the improved and supplemented edition of Suśruta's original work to Nāgārjūna,<sup>2</sup> the celebrated Buddhist Chemist, who is said to have been a contemporary of the king Śātvāhana.<sup>3</sup>

In the third chapter, Suśruta enumerates the subjects described by him,—the chapter forming an index of the book. Therein he mentions the five principal divisions of his book and says that the Uttara Tantra or the Supplement would be

<sup>1</sup> नमी ब्रह्मप्रजापत्यशिवबलभिद्वन्द्वनरिसुश्रुतप्रसूतिभ्यः ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I.

<sup>2</sup> यत्र यत्र परीक्षे नियोगस्तत्र तत्रैव प्रतिसंस्कर्तुं सूत्रं ज्ञातव्यमिति । प्रतिसंस्कर्त्तापीड नागार्जुन एव ।

Dallanā's Commentary to Suśruta, I. i.

See also Dr. Cordier's *Recettes Decouvertes*, pp. 12-13.

<sup>3</sup> See Harsacarita by Vāna.

Beal's *Buddhist Records of the Western World*, Vol II., P. 209, 212, 216.

Burgess' *Archæological Survey of S. India*.

Introd. a l'histoire du Budh. Ind., P. 508.





described afterwards.<sup>1</sup> Now the fact that the sixth part was appended to the work as a Supplement or Uttara Tantra (i.e., after treatise) clearly shows that it was written afterwards by another surgeon and added to the original treatise. If the original Suśruta wished to have six divisions of his book, he would have mentioned it clearly in the index and would not have, after stating that his book consisted of five parts, added that "the Supplement would be described afterwards,"<sup>2</sup> which seems to be an interpolation of the Supplementor to pass his edition as the original work of the author. Again at the end of the fifth section, there is a passage describing the importance of the Āyurveda, which was meant as the conclusion of the book by the author.<sup>3</sup> It is to be noted

<sup>1</sup> प्रागाभिहितं सविंशमध्यायशतं पञ्चसु स्थानेषु । तत्र सूत्रस्थानमध्यायाः षट्चत्वारिंशत् । षोडश निदानानि । दश शरीराणि । चत्वारिंशच्चिकित्सितानि । अष्टौ कल्पाः । तदुत्तरं षट्षष्टिः ।

अध्यायानां शतं विंशमेवमेतदुदीरितम् ।

अतःपरं खनामैव तन्मुत्तरमुच्यते ॥

Suśruta Samhitā, I. iii.

<sup>2</sup> बीजं चिकित्सितमैतत् समासेन प्रकीर्तितम् ।

• सविंशमध्यायशतमस्य व्याख्या भविष्यति ॥

तच्च सविंशमध्यायशतं पञ्चसु स्थानेषु । तत्र सूत्रस्थाननिदानशरीरचिकित्सितकल्पे-  
ष्वर्थवशात् संविभज्योत्तरे तन्ने शेषानर्थान् व्याख्यायामासः ।

Ibid, I. i.

<sup>3</sup> सविंशमध्यायशतमेतदुक्तं विभागशः ।

ब्रह्मीदृष्टाननिर्दिष्टान्सर्वान् वक्ष्याम्यथोत्तरे ॥

सनातनत्वाद्देदानामक्षरत्वात्तथैव च ॥

तथा दृष्टफलत्वाच्च हितत्वादपि देहिनां ।

वाक्समूहाध्विस्तारात् पूजितत्वाच्च देहिभिः ॥

चिकित्सितात्पुण्यतमं न किञ्चिदपि सुश्रुतम् ।

ऋषेरिन्द्रप्रभावस्यामृतयोनिर्भिव्यगुरीः ॥

धारयित्वा तु विमलं मतम् परमसम्मतम् ।

उक्ताहार समाचारैर्ब्रह्म प्रेत्य च मीदते ॥

Ibid, V. viii.



that at the end of no other sections do we find a similar passage. He also writes: "Thus one hundred and twenty chapters are described" but adds: "The other diseases shall be described in the Uttara Tantra": the latter part no doubt is an interpolation of the Supplementor. Moreover, in the opening lines which serve as a preface to the sixth part, the authority quoted for the diseases of the eye is Nimi, the king Janaka of Mithilā and not Dhanvantari.<sup>1</sup> But in the first chapter of the first section, it is described that the sages wanted Dhanvantari to teach them Śalyatantra or Major Surgery only and he consented to their request. And this subject he treated in detail in the five sections of the book. In the Supplement, on the other hand, are described the other branches of the science such as Minor Surgery, Inner Medicine, &c. Probably this part was added afterwards to give completeness to the treatise; and the original Suśruta was called Vṛddhya or the Old by the commentators to distinguish him from the Supplementor.

Suśruta's work is specially important to us as having two whole chapters (vii and viii of Section I.) devoted to the descriptions of Surgical Instruments and one whole chapter (xxv of Section I.) to the principles of Surgical Operations.

The age of Suśruta is also involved in obscurity. Nothing can be ascertained from the fact that he was a son of Viśvāmitra<sup>2</sup>,

<sup>1</sup> अध्यायानां शते विंशे यदुक्तमसङ्गमया ।  
वक्ष्यामि बहुधा सम्यगुत्तरैऽर्थानिमानिति ॥  
इदानीन्तत् प्रवक्ष्यामि तन्मसुत्तरमुत्तमं ।  
निखिलेनीपदिश्यन्ते यत्र रोगाः पृथग्विधाः ॥  
शलाक्यशस्त्राभिहिता विदेहाधिपकौर्त्तिताः ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, VI. i.

<sup>2</sup> Viśvāmitra is the *gotra* name; so the simple name may either refer to the great Viśvāmitra or to his descendants.



for the age in which the latter lived is not known to us. But he must have flourished during the Vedic Age as many Vedic Hymns are ascribed to him. In the Mahābhārata, Suśruta is mentioned as one of the sons of Viśvāmitra<sup>1</sup> and in the Suśruta Samhitā the author is often described as his son. The age of the great epic has, with good reasons, been fixed at 1000 B.C. So Suśruta must have flourished much earlier. The latest limit which we can assign to Suśruta is 600 B.C. as "there are indications in the *Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa*, a secondary Vedic work, that the author of it was acquainted with the doctrines of Suśruta" as regards the Osteology. "The exact date of that work is not known, but it is with good reason referred to the sixth century B.C." Again in the Atharva Veda, in the tenth book, there is a hymn on the creation of man in which the skeleton is described according to Ātreya and Suśruta.<sup>2</sup> "The large portion of it (Books I to XVIII) indeed admittedly belongs to a much earlier period, possibly as early as about 1000 B.C.; and the hymn in question is included in this older portion"<sup>3</sup>. This shows that Suśruta could not have flourished later than 1000 B.C.

Again in Hastī-Āyurveda, a book on the Treatment of

<sup>1</sup> श्यामायनीऽथ गार्ग्यं जावलिमुत्तुतस्तथा—

\* \* \* \* \*

विश्वामित्रात्मजाः सर्वे मुनयो ब्रह्मवादिनः ॥

Mahābhārata, Anuśāṣana Parva, Ch. IV.

<sup>2</sup> See J. R. A. S., 1906, P. 915 ; 1907, P. 1.

<sup>3</sup> Hoernle's Studies in the Medicine of Ancient India, Part I. Osteology, Introduction, P. 9.



Elephants by Pālakāpya, we find the Surgical instruments described after the manner of Suśruta. Pālakāpya lived as a Veterinary Surgeon in the Court of Romapāda, King of Aṅga, which had as its capital the famous town of Campā, identified with the modern town of Bhāgalpur. King Romapāda was contemporary with king Daśaratha, the father of Rāma, the hero of Rāmāyana.<sup>1</sup> Here we have a corroborative evidence of the age of Suśruta.

Suśruta is mentioned in the *Vārttikas* of Kātyāyana<sup>2</sup> who flourished during the fourth century B.C.

We have alluded to Nāgārjūna,<sup>3</sup> the Buddhist Chemist, as the redactor of the Suśruta Saṁhitā. He is said to have been a contemporary of king Kanīṣka that is about the first century B.C.

Another revision was undertaken by Candrāṭe, the son of Tiṣaṭa, the author of Cikitsā-kalikā. He revised the text which must have fallen then into a state of corruption. The probable date of Candrāṭe is the ninth century A.D.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> अग्रिं युयुषमाणस्य पितरं च यशस्विनम् ।

एतस्मिन्नेवकाले तु रोमपाद प्रतापवान् ।

Rāmāyana, Vālakāṇḍam, Ch. IX.

See also Rāmāyana, i, 11, 13-20 ; Mahābhārat, iii, 110, 10008-9 ; Bhāgavat, ix, 23, 7-10.

<sup>2</sup> सुश्रुतेन प्रीक्षं सौश्रुतं ।

<sup>3</sup> Possibly more than one Nāgārjūna appeared in ancient India as a chemist. Alberūni says : "He lived nearly a hundred years before our time" (India, I. P, 189). Rājtarāṅginī places him in the 3rd century B.C. (I. Vs. 172-173). The modern scholars are of opinion that the founder of the Mahāyāna system lived in the first century A.D.

<sup>4</sup> Hoernle's Osteology, p. 100.





There is no doubt of the tradition that Suśruta's work was redacted, for the author could not write such a passage as follows: "The surgical treatises of Aupadhenava, Aurabhra, Suśruta and Pouskalāvata form the basis of other treatises on the subject."<sup>1</sup>

*Commentators.*<sup>2</sup>—

1. Cakrapāṇidatta—Vānumati—1060 A.D.
2. Gayadāsa—{Nyāya Candrikā }—11th century A.D.  
                                   {or Pañjikā }
3. Jejjaṭācāryya.
4. Bhāskara.
5. Mādhava.
6. Bramhadeva.
7. Dallaṇācāryya—Nibandha Saṁgraha—12th century A.D.
8. Ubhālta (Kashmir).

*Editions.*—Suśruta Saṁhitā has been edited by Madhusūdan Gupta, Calcutta, 1835; by J. Vidyāsāgar, 3rd Edition, Calcutta, 1889; by A. C. Kaviratna, Calcutta, 1888-95; by Prubhurām Jibānarām, Bombay, 1901; and by Virasvāmī, Madras.

This book has been translated into English in part only by U. C. Datta 1883, A. Chaṭṭopādhyāy 1891, Hoernle 1897, Calcutta, in the Bibliotheca Indica. It has been translated into Latin by Hessler and into German by Vullurs.

The book was translated into Arabic before the end of the eighth century A.D. It is called "Kitab-Shawshoon-al-Hindi"

1 श्रीपद्मेनवमीरभं सौश्रुतं पीष्कलावतम् ।  
शेषाणां शल्यतन्त्राणां मृलाग्येतानि निर्दिशेत् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. iv.

१३ \* \* \* श्रीसहजपालदेववृषतिवल्लभः श्रीडक्षिणः समभूत् । तेन  
श्रीजैज्भटं टीकाकारं श्रीगयदासभास्करौ च पञ्जिकाकारौ श्रीमाधवव्रह्म-  
देवादीन् टीप्पनकारांशोपजीव्यायुर्वेदशास्त्रं सुश्रुतव्याख्यानार्थं निवन्धसंग्रहः क्रियते ।

Dallana's Commentary, I. i.

and also mentioned as "Kitab-i-Susrud" or Book Suśruta by Ibn Abillsaibial. Rhazes often quotes Sarad as an authority in Surgery.<sup>1</sup>

## VĀGBHATA I.

The next author of celebrity and whose work is still extant is Vāgbhaṭa I or Vāgbhaṭa the elder, the author of Aṣṭāṅga Saṁgraha (*i.e.*, Compilation of the Octopartrite Science). In later times, a namesake of his, wrote another work called Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā (or the best Compendium *i.e.*, the Heart of the Octopartrite Science). In the Uttara Sthāna, Vāgbhaṭa the younger distinctly states that his Compendium is based on the Compilation of Vāgbhaṭa the elder.<sup>2</sup>

As regards the age of Vāgbhaṭa the elder, there is the same uncertainty as with his predecessors. We are however sure that he is posterior to Caraka and Suśruta for he refers to these writers by name.<sup>3</sup>

The chronological relation of the three early authors is described in a popular couplet that Ātreya, Suśruta and Vāgbhaṭa were the three great medical authors for the three Yugas—

<sup>1</sup> "His next description is from an author named Sarad, whom he frequently quotes in other parts of his works".

Adam's Commentary on Paulus Aeginetta, VI. lxi.

<sup>2</sup> अष्टाङ्गवैद्यकमहोदधिमन्यनेन योऽष्टाङ्गसंयुक्तमहावृत्तराशिरात्र ।

तस्मादनन्त्यफलमन्त्यसमुद्यमानां प्रीतयमेतदुदितं पृथगेव तन्मन् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, Uttara Sthāna, Ch. XL, v. 82.

<sup>3</sup> By name, *e.g.* in Saṁgraha, Bombay ed., Vol. I, P. 246; Vol. II, P. 421. Again quoted from Caraka, *Ibid.*, Vol. I, pp. 20, 93; Vol. II, pp. 212, 213, *et passim*; from Suśruta I, *ibid.*, Vol. I, pp. 109, 121, 177, 247; Vol. II, p. 303, *et passim*. (Hoernle).



the Tretā, Dvāpara and Kali, respectively.<sup>1</sup> They are known as the Vṛddha Trayī or the Old Triad. This medical tradition goes much against the conclusion of Dr. Hoernle that Vāgbhaṭa I must have flourished early in the seventh century A.D. One of the reasons put forward by him is the fact, that "the Buddhist pilgrim I'Tsing, who resided ten years in the Nalandā University (in Bihar) from about 675-686 A.D., states in *Records of Buddhist practices* that the eight arts (*i.e.*, the branches of medicine) formerly existed in eight books but lately a man epitomised them and made them on one bundle (or book)."<sup>2</sup> Professor Jolly understands by it the Suśruta Saṁhitā while Dr. Hoernle points out with more reasons that it refers to Vāgbhaṭa I's work, the Aṣṭāṅga Saṁgraha (*i.e.*, the Compilation of the Octopartrite Science) and rules out Suśruta by the word "lately."<sup>3</sup> But the description that I'Tsing gives of the contents of the book does not warrant any reference to either. Moreover, he has not given any reason why Vāgbhaṭa II's book Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā (the best Compendium of the Octopartrite Science) might not be alluded to by I'Tsing. Dr. Hoernle, however, rules him out by date for "he can not be placed earlier than the eighth century"—an assertion unsupported by any evidence whatsoever. All that he has proved is that "Accordingly it is probable that all these three medical writers (Mādhava, Dṛḍhaka and Vāgbhaṭa II) come in the period from the 7th to the

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note 3, P. 6.

<sup>2</sup> I'Tsing: *Records of the Buddhist Religion*. Transl. by Professor Takakusu, P. 128.

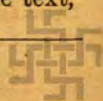
<sup>3</sup> J. R. A. S., 1907, P. 413.

Hoernle's *Osteology*, Introduction, P. 10—11.



9th century A.D.<sup>1</sup> at no very great interval from one another," and this proof is based on the age of Vāgbhaṭa I as suggested by I'Tsing's remarks. Thus he has taken for granted what he is required to prove. He has shown that Susruta is anterior to Vāgbhaṭa I; and Vāgbhaṭa II is posterior to him. But in trying to prove that Vāgbhaṭa I lived in the seventh century he cannot assume that Vāgbhaṭa II lived in the eighth. Another evidence adduced in support of his conclusion is the fact that the non-medical version of the list of bones of the human body as contained in the Law-book of Yājñavalkya presupposes earlier uncorrupted forms of lists of bones both in Caraka and Suśruta, and "the corrupt recension, traditionally handed down, must have come into existence at a later date," that is to say, between the date of Yājñavalkya (350 A.D.) and Vāgbhaṭa I, the latter of whom is proved to have copied from the corrupt recensions of Caraka and Suśruta. Thus the older recensions still existed in the fourth century A.D. and if we add to it the interval of time necessary for the texts to have fallen into a state of corruption, we get the early seventh century A.D. for Vāgbhaṭa I. But we must remember that there is nothing to prevent against the supposition that Vāgbhaṭa I lived before Yājñavalkya. There might have been two recensions of the texts available during Yājñavalkya's time, one corrupted and it might or might not have been the work of Vāgbhaṭa I and another true version which was availed of by the sage Yājñavalkya. And similar events have happened, as has been pointed out by Dr. Hoernle himself, in our own generation. Gaṅgādhar's recension of Caraka is a corrupted form of the text,

<sup>1</sup> *Ibid*, P. 16.





while the recension given in Jībānanda's edition is the traditional text of Caraka. No critic would I think jump into the conclusion that Gaṅgādhar lived three or four centuries after Jībānanda. Again if it be true, as he contends, that Suśruta was redacted by Vāgbhaṭa I, we could easily imagine that Yājñavalkya copied his list bones from the original Suśruta and not from the redaction of Vāgbhaṭa I. So we see that the age assigned to Vāgbhaṭa I, or the seventh century A.D. can not be accepted as proved. Dr. Hoernle says : "It should, however, be understood that these conclusions regarding the date and authorship of Vāgbhaṭa I, are not put forward as established fact."

Let us recapitulate the objections that can be urged against the conclusion that Vāgbhaṭa I lived in the seventh century A.D.

1. Vāgbhaṭa I is believed by the Indian medical men to have flourished long before the Christian era. By some, he is connected with the court of Yudhiṣṭhira, but his name is nowhere mentioned in the Mahābhārata. Ātreya, Suśruta and Vāgbhaṭa are described as the Old Triad or Vṛddhya Trayī and they were the authorities for the Tretā, Dvāpara and Kali Yugas, respectively. It is curious to observe that Dr. Hoernle in arguing against the conclusion of Prof. Jolly that Suśruta is meant by I'Tsing, takes advantage of this Indian medical tradition that Suśruta flourished during pre-historic times, but does not mention the same tradition with regard to Vāgbhaṭa I, which goes against his own conclusion. On the other hand the same objection does not apply against Vāgbhaṭa II.

2. The name of Vāgbhaṭa, I's book, Compendium of the

Octopartrite Science, no doubt, agrees very well with the description of I'Tsing that "lately a man collected them into one bundle." But Vāgbhāṭa II's book "The best Compendium of the Octopartrite Science" is equally suggestive, though Dr. Hoernle says: "it cannot prevail by the side of the more suggestive name of the rival work of Vāgbhāṭa the elder."

3. Again in arguing against Prof. Jolly, Dr. Hoernle has attached much importance to the word "lately" by which Suśruta is ruled out by date. Admitting the validity of such reasoning, it does not follow that by the word "lately" I'Tsing meant any contemporary author or any one who preceded him by a short period only. To comprehend the meaning of the sentence we must understand the word "lately" in connection with the word "formerly" used before.<sup>1</sup> Now the sentence "The science of medicine formerly existed in eight books" no doubt refers to the division of Āyurveda into eight parts by Brahmā and to the treatises on the different branches of Medicine by Agniveśa, Suśruta and others. These treatises are believed to be of remote antiquity, and so any later compilation may be spoken of as recent in comparison with the old treatises of unknown ages. Thus the word "lately" may refer either to Vāgbhāṭa I or Vāgbhāṭa II, but the latter author's claim to the honour becomes reasonable considering his decided posteriority to the former and so coming within the limit of the time suggested by the word "lately."

4. Again I'Tsing refers to a book which was recognised as the standard throughout India. This may refer either to

<sup>1</sup> J. R. A. S. 1907. P. 174.





Vāgbhaṭa I or II. But if Vāgbhaṭa I's book occupied such a position at the time of I'Tsing, it becomes difficult to imagine why Vāgbhaṭa II should write another work principally based on the work of Vāgbhaṭa I after a lapse of a century or so. Moreover, we find at the present time, that Vāgbhaṭa II's book, *Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Samhitā*, has a wider popularity than the book *Aṣṭāṅga Samgraha* of Vāgbhaṭa I. The former has been printed many times and is widely read by the students,—so much so Vāgbhaṭa is generally known as the author of *Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Samhitā*.

5. Moreover, the Arabian physician Rhazes, who is said to have lived in the ninth century (882 A.D.) in treating of the property of ginger, the common plantain or musa and other drugs, quotes from an Indian writer, whom he calls Sindaxar or Sindicara.<sup>1</sup> Royle says: "But in the article *De Allio* another Indian author is quoted, whom I have not been able yet to trace out—*Ait Sindifar* (in another place written "*Dixit sindichar*") *indianus* valet contra Ventositatem." This Sindicara is identified with Vāgbhaṭa II of Sindh who was in his time known as a second Caraka or Cara, the syllable "ka" making no difference, as in words like "bāla" and "bālaka," both meaning a child.<sup>2</sup> We know that the Vāgbhaṭa's *Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Samhitā* was one of the medical works translated by the order of Caliphs in the eighth century.<sup>3</sup>

6. The translations of the Caraka, the Suśruta and the Vāgbhaṭa occur in the Thibetan Tanjur.<sup>4</sup> "George Huth,<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Antiquity of Hindu Medicine, Page 38.

<sup>2</sup> History of Aryan Medical Science, P. 196.

<sup>3</sup> Zeit. deut. morg. Ges. 34, p. 465.

<sup>4</sup> Jour. Asiatic Soc. XXXVIII. (1835).

<sup>5</sup> Zeit. deut. morg. Ges. T. (LXIX. pp. 279—284).



who has recently critically examined the contents of the Tanjur, concludes that the most recent date at which it can be placed is the 8th century A.D."<sup>1</sup>

So I cannot avoid the conclusion that of the three authors, Suśruta, Vāgbhaṭa I and II, to which I'Tsing's remarks may refer, the last has probably the best claims to that reference; and the date assigned to Vāgbhaṭa I may well suit Vāgbhaṭa II *i.e.*, "as late as the early 7th century A.D.,"<sup>2</sup> and possibly still earlier.<sup>3</sup> Again it is impossible for us to say whether I'Tsing's remarks may not appropriately refer to other authors whose works are lost to us.

Mention should also be made of the fact pointed out by Dr. Cordier that Vāgbhaṭa is mentioned in Rājtarāṅgiṇī and his date is fixed there as 1196-1218 A.D.<sup>4</sup>

But the name of Vāgbhaṭa does not occur in Stein's edition of Rāj, which is no doubt the most reliable, and so we can easily dismiss this view as untenable.

*Editions.*—Vāgbhaṭa I's book Aṣṭāṅga Saṁgraha has been printed in Bombay.

*Commentary.*—Arunadatta—about 1220 A.D.

<sup>1</sup> P. C. Rāy's History of Hindu Chemistry, Intro., P. XXIX.

<sup>2</sup> Hoernle's Osteology, Intro., p. 10.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Kunte places him "at least as early as the second century before Christ," Vide his Intro. to Vāgbhaṭa's Aṣṭāṅga Hrdaya Saṁhitā.

<sup>4</sup> सिंहगुप्तसुतः परमवैज्जी वाग्भटाचार्यः काश्मीरनगरपति जयसिंहस्य प्रजापालन समये (ख्रिः बादश्र शताब्द्याम्, शक १११८—४०) वर्तमाना आसीत् ।

Quoted in Cordier's Vāgbhaṭa et L'Aṣṭāṅgahrdaya Saṁhitā, 1896.

See Intro. to the Vaidyakśabdasindhu by Kavirāja Umeśandra Gupta, 1894.



## VĀGBHATA II.

The next great authority in Hindu medicine is Vāgbhaṭa II, son of Simha Gupta, an inhabitant of Sindh.<sup>1</sup> His work, *Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā*, the author himself states, is based on the summary of Vāgbhaṭa the elder.<sup>2</sup> In the first chapter of *Sūtra Sthāna*, he acknowledges the help he received from the works of Agniveśa, Hārīta, Bhela, and others.<sup>3</sup> The fact that Caraka is not referred to here as one of the sources of Vāgbhaṭa II has been taken advantage of by some to prove the posteriority of Caraka.<sup>4</sup> They conclude that Agniveśa and Suśruta wrote their works long before him, and the Agniveśa Tantra was not called by the name of, and in fact was not as yet edited by, Caraka, at the

- 1            भिषग्वरी वामट इत्यमुने  
              पितामही नामधरीऽस्मि यस्य  
              सुतीऽभवत्तस्य च सिंहगुप्तः  
              तस्याप्यहम् सिन्धुसु जातजन्मा ॥

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Aṣṭāṅga.

- 2    Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, Uttara Sthāna, Ch. XL, v. 82.

See foot note 2, p. 18.

- 3            ब्रह्मा स्मृत्वाऽऽयुधी वेदं प्रजापतिमजिह्वत् ।  
              सीऽश्विनौ तौ सहस्राक्षं सीऽक्षिपुवादिकान्मुनीन् ॥४॥  
              तेऽग्निवेशादिकस्ते तु पृथक् तन्नाणि तेनिरि ।  
              तेभ्योऽतिविप्रकौर्णैभ्यः प्रायः सारतरीचयः ।  
              क्रियतेऽष्टाङ्गद्वयं नातिसंचेपविस्तरम् ॥५॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, Sūtra Sthāna, Ch. I.

4    "It would appear also that at the time Vāgbhaṭa lived, Agniveśa's work was not called by the name of Caraka, and Suśruta had also been written. Hence it follows that Caraka's edition of Agniveśa, that is the work now called Caraka, was probably edited after Suśruta had been written."

Dutt's Materia Medica of the Hindus, Intro., p. IX.

time Vāgbhāṭa II flourished. The argument is however not conclusive ; it only shows that the Agniveśa Tantra was available to Vāgbhāṭa II in its original form. No definite results can be expected from this *argumentum ex silentio*. Again it may easily be imagined, and I think it is the right view of the question, that Caraka lived and edited Agniveśa's work long before Vāgbhāṭa, the reason of Caraka being not mentioned in Vāgbhāṭa's book, is the fact that Caraka did not usurp the authorship of Agniveśa Tantra but clearly states at the end of each chapter the real nature of his share in the authorship of his book in the following words :—"Here ends the chapter of Agniveśa Tantra as corrected and edited by Caraka." Many modern text books of medicine have been edited and improved, though the books are still called after the original authors. Moreover to make Caraka flourish after Vāgbhāṭa II would bring him to quite modern times.

We are however arguing on false premises. Though Caraka is not mentioned in the Sūtra Sthāna of Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, his name occurs in the Uttara Sthāna.<sup>1</sup> So there can be no doubt that Caraka's edition of Agniveśa was current in India long before Vāgbhāṭa II wrote his Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā.

<sup>1</sup> यदि चरकमधीते तदधुवं सुश्रुतादि

प्रणिगदितगदानां नाममात्रेऽपि वाच्यः ।

अथ चरकविहीनः प्रक्रियायामखिन्नः

किमिह खलु करीतु व्यधितानां वराकः ॥४८॥

\* \* \* \*

ऋषिप्रणीते प्रीतिथेन्मुक्ता चरकसुश्रुतौ ।

भेदाद्याः किं न पठ्यान्ते तस्माद्वाच्यं सुभाषितम् ॥५३॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, (Ed. Vijayratna Sen),

Uttara Sthāna, Ch. XL.



*Editions.*—There are various editions of the book but the following are reliable :—

1. By Dr. Anna Moreśvara Kunte, M.D., 2 vols., Bombay, 1880 ; 2nd Ed., 1891.
2. By Jibānanda Vidyāsāgara, Calcutta, 1882.
3. By Vijayratna Sen Kaviranjana, Calcutta, 1885-90.
4. By Ganēś Sastri Tartevoidya, Bombay, 1888.
5. In Sanskrit and Bengali, with the commentary of Arūṇadatta by Vijayratna Sen Gupta, Calcutta, 1888.
6. In Sanskrit and Guzrathi by Behicharlal Nathurām, Ahmedabad, 1889.
7. In Sanskrit and Bengali by Kālīśa Cundra Sen Gupta, Calcutta, 1890-1892.
8. In Sanskrit and Hindi by Pandit Robi Dutta, Bombay, 1890.
9. In Sanskrit and Marathi by Ganēś Kṛṣṇa Garde, Poona, 1891.
10. In Sanskrit and Bengali by *Kavirāja* Binod Lāl Sen, Calcutta, 1891-1892.

*Commentaries.*<sup>1</sup>—

1. Sarvāṅga Sundarī<sup>2</sup> by Arūṇadatta, son of Mṛgāṅka-datta, 1220 A.D.

<sup>1</sup> See Cordier's *Vāgbhaṭa et L'Aṣṭāṅgahr̥daya Saṁhitā*, P. 6.

<sup>2</sup> इति श्रीमृगाङ्गदत्तपुत्र श्रीमदरुणदत्तविरचितायां  
सर्वाङ्गसुन्दराख्यटीकायां \* \* \* \* .

Colophon at the end of each Chapter of the Commentary.

2. Āyurvedadarśayana (Dinacharyā Prakarana) by Hemadri or Kamadeva, Raja of Devagiri. It is available in parts only.
3. Aṣṭāṅgahrdayarddyota by Aśadhara Sallaxana.
4. Padārthacandrikā by Candracandana.
5. Saṅketamañjarī by Dāmodara.
6. Aṣṭāṅga Hrdayatikā by Rāmanāth Vaidya.
7. Vālaprobodhikā (Anonymous).
8. Hrdayabodhikā „
9. Pāṭhya.
10. Vāgbhaṭārtha Kaumudī by Hari Kṛṣṇa Senī Mullick.
11. Pradīpa by Jaśodānandan Sarkār, 1298 B.S.

### VĀGBHATA III.

The author of Rasaratna Samuccaya in the Colophons at the end of each chapter identifies himself with Vāgbhaṭa II : "Here ends Book first (or so) of R.R.S. composed by Vāgbhaṭa, son of Siṁha Gupta, prince of physician." The salutation at the beginning of his book is strictly Buddhistic. The probable date of the book is "placed between the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries A.D."<sup>1</sup> "The chemical knowledge, as revealed in Vāgbhaṭa is almost on a par with that in the Suśruta," whereas the R. R. S. indicates an advanced state of that science. He quotes Rasārṇava as a source of his information ; he does not mention opium as a medicine, and the Firaṅga roga and its treatment find no place in his book.

<sup>1</sup> P. C. Rāy's History of Hindu Chemistry, Intro., p. li.





## MĀDHAVAKARA.

He is the author of the famous work on Pathology or Nidāna. His book was translated into Arabic by the order of Harun-Al-Rasid and so the most recent date that can be assigned to him is the seventh century A.D.<sup>1</sup> Thakore Saheb of Gondal identifies him with Mādhavācāryya, the celebrated author of Sarvadarśana Saṁgraha, the brother of Sāyana, the commentator of the Vedas.<sup>2</sup> I do not find any authority for such an assertion and here is an example of fallacious reasoning based simply on the identity of names. Mādhavācāryya and Sāyana lived in the twelfth century A.D. Mention should also be made of the view expressed by Dr. Hoernle as certain that Mādhavakara, the author of Nidāna and Vṛnda Mādhava, the author of Siddhayoga are one and the same person. He holds that Vṛnda is the real name, but he was known to the commentators as Mādhava, for his melodious diction. There is no proof given of this opinion, and we have reasons for not accepting it. However as he does not treat of surgical instruments, his work is not important to us.

## CAKRAPĀNIDATTA.

Cakrapānidatta or more commonly Cakradatta in a Colophon<sup>3</sup> has given an account of himself in his book called

<sup>1</sup> Jolly's Indian Medicine, ff. 5, 6, pp. 7-9.

<sup>2</sup> History of Aryan Medical Science, Ch. II, p. 35.

<sup>3</sup>

गौडाधिनाथ रसवत्पादिकारिपाच—

नारायणस्य तनयः सुनयोऽन्तरङ्गात् ।

भानीरजु प्रथितलीप्रवलीकुलीनः

श्रीचक्रपाणिहि कर्तृपदाधिकारी ॥

Colophon in Cakradatta,



Cikitsā Sāra Saṁgraha: "The author of this work is Śrī Cakrapāṇi who belongs to the family of Lodhrali; and who is the youngest brother of Vānu and the son of Nārāyaṇa, the superintendent of the kitchen of Nayapāla,<sup>1</sup> the king of Gour." This book is arranged on the plan of Vṛnda in his Siddhayoga<sup>2</sup> which again follows closely as a companion volume to Mādhava's Nidāna.<sup>3</sup> The age of Cakradatta is about 1060 A.D.; and Vṛnda must have flourished between Mādhava and Cakrapāṇi for he quotes the former while he is himself quoted by the latter. So the probable age of Vṛnda is the ninth century A.D. Besides being a celebrated author, Cakradatta wrote excellent commentaries of Caraka and Suśruta. His extant works are—

### 1. Cikitsā Sāra Saṁgraha or Cakradatta. A treatise on Medicine.

<sup>1</sup> For the date of Nayapāla, vide Cunningham's Archæo. Survey of India. III. P. 119; also J. A. S. LX. Pt. I. P. 46. Life of Atisa by S. C. Dās.

<sup>2</sup> यः सिद्धयोगलिखिताधिकसिद्धयोगा—

नवैव निक्षिपति केवलमुद्धरेद्वा ।

भट्टत्रयत्रिपथवेदविदा जनेन

दत्तः पतेत् सपदि मूर्ध्नि तस्य शापः ॥

Sloka at the end of the Cakradatta.

य इत्यादी।—सिद्धयोग इति वृन्दकृतसंग्रहस्य संज्ञा, तल्लिखितयोगमपेक्ष्याधिका ये च सिद्धयोगा अत्र संग्रहे उक्तास्तानधिकयोगान् तत्रैव सिद्धयोगे निक्षिपति, तथा यो वा तानधिकसिद्धयोगानितः संग्रहादुद्धरेत् दूरीकुश्यात्, तस्य मूर्ध्नि ईदृशेन पुंसा दत्तः शापः पतेत्। कौटुशेन पुंसा ? भट्टत्रयत्रिपथवेदविद्या। कारिका वृद्धटीका चन्द्रटीकेति भट्टत्रयं, त्रिपथवेदः ऋग्यजुःसामरूपः, तद्विदा ॥

Sibadāsa Sen's Commentary.

<sup>3</sup> वृन्देन \* \* \* \* \* संलिख्यते गदविनिश्चयक्रमेण ॥

Vṛnda's Siddhayoga.



2. Cakradatta or Materia Medica. It treats on drugs applicable to a number of diseases.
3. Mukṭābali. This treatise on the nature and properties of medicinal drugs is ascribed to Cakrapāṇi.
4. Vānumati—Commentary on Suśruta Saṁhitā.
5. Cakratattwadīpikā—Commentary on Caraka Saṁhitā.

*Editions.*—

1. Cakradatta or Cikitsā Sāra Saṁgraha edited by *Kavirāja* Pyāri Mohan Sen Gupta, Calcutta, 1295 B.S.
2. Cakradatta with Bengali translation by Candrakumār Dās Kavibhuṣan.
3. Cakradatta with Bengali translation and with commentary of Śiva Dās Sen, by Jaśodā Nandan Sarkār, 1302 B.S.

### SĀRAṄGADHARA.

He wrote Sāraṅgadhara Saṁgraha. It is compiled from the works of Caraka, Suśruta, Vāgbhaṭa and others.<sup>1</sup> It is very popular in Western India. It treats on nosology and practice of Medicine. He was the son of Dāmodara and flourished in the fifteenth century A.D.

*Edition.*—By *Kavirāja* Pyāri Mohan Sen Gupta, Calcutta, 1296 B.S.

<sup>1</sup> प्रसिद्धयोगा मुनिभिः प्रयुक्ता  
चिकित्सकै र्यै बहुश्रीऽनुभूताः ।  
विधीयते शार्ङ्गधरेण तेषां  
सुसंग्रहः सज्जनरञ्जनाय ॥

*Commentary.*—Sāraṅgadharatikā: It is a commentary on the above work by Adhamulla.

### BHĀVA MĪŚRA.

About 350 years ago, a compilation was made by Bhāva Mīśra, son of Lataka Mīśra, an inhabitant of Benares, from the most celebrated medical works and was called Bhāva Prakāśa.<sup>1</sup> He lived about 1550 A.D. and was considered a “Jewel of Physicians and Master of Śāstras.” He mentions China root called Tob Chini<sup>2</sup> in the Vernacular as a remedy of Firaṅga roga or Syphilis<sup>3</sup> which he describes for the first time in India. He was the first to make mention of certain drugs of foreign countries as Badhkshani Naspasi,

- <sup>1</sup> आयुर्वेदाश्चिन्मध्यादतिमतिमुनयी यीगरत्नानि यवा-  
ल्लव्वा स्वे स्वे निवन्धेदधुरखिलजन व्यधिविअंसनाथ ।  
तत्तद यन्यादगृहीतैः सुवचनमणिभिर्भावमिश्रशिक्षिणा  
शास्त्रे जाड्यान्धकारं प्रशमयितुमिमं सम्बिधत्ते प्रकाशम् ॥

Bhāva Prakāśa, I. i.

इति श्रीमिश्र लटकतनय श्रीमन्मिश्रभावविरचितै  
भावप्रकाशे षष्ठ प्रकरणं सम्पूर्णं ॥

Colophon at the end of Section I.

- <sup>2</sup> द्वीपान्तरवचा किञ्चित्तिक्तीणा वज्रिदीप्तिवत् ।  
विवन्धाभानशूलघ्नी शकृन्मूत्रविशीघिनी ॥  
वातव्याधीनपक्कारमुन्मादं तनुवेदनाम् ।  
व्यपीडति विशेषेण फिरङ्गामयनाशिनी ॥

Bhāva Prakāśa, I. i.

- <sup>3</sup> फिरङ्गसंज्ञके देशे बाहुल्येनव यद्भवति ।  
तस्मात् फिरङ्ग इत्युक्ती व्याधिव्याधिविशारदैः ॥

Bhāva Prakāśa, II. iv.



Khorasani and Parasika Vacha (*Acorus Calamus*), Sulemani Kharjura (date fruit of Suleman),<sup>1</sup> and opium.

*Editions.*—

1. By Jibānanda Vidyāsāgara, Calcutta, 1875.
2. By Rasik Lāl Gupta.
3. By Kālīśa Candra Vidyāratna.

Besides these books, the number of Sanskrit medical works is simply legion ; many of them are daubed with fancy names and are excellent treatises on the different branches of medical science. But they are quite foreign to our purpose. I intend to publish in a separate volume short notices of the medical authors and their works, and so we need not dwell on them here.

- <sup>1</sup> पारसीक यवानी तु यवानी सदृशी गुणैः ।  
विशेषात् पाचनी रुचा ग्रहिणी मादिनी गुरुः ॥

Bhāva Prakāśa, I.

पारसीकवचा शुक्ला प्रोक्ता हेमवतीति सा ।  
हेमवत्युदिता तद्वद्वतं हन्ति विशेषतः ॥

Ibid.

उक्तं खसफलचौरमाफूकमहिफेणकम् ।

Ibid.

चीनाक सञ्जः कर्पूरः कफचयकरः स्मृतः ।

Ibid.

खर्जुरी गोस्तनाकारा परद्वीपादिहागता ॥

Ibid.



## CHAPTER II.

### HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

Before entering into our proper subject, it would not be amiss to notice here two objects—Hospitals and Anæsthetics—which are essentially necessary for the development of surgical knowledge. We know from the Edict II of Aśoka that India during his reign was studded with hospitals not only for the treatment of human beings but also for the brute creations. But even before Aśoka, hospitals flourished in India. In Caraka we can trace the germ of such an institution though it was used for rich men and did not accommodate the public.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> दृढं निवातं प्रवातेकदर्शं सुखप्रविचारमनुपत्यकं धूमातपरजसामनभिगमनीयमनिष्टानाञ्च शब्द-स्पर्श-रस-रूप-गन्धानां सीपानीद्रूमलमुषलवर्चःस्थानस्नानभूमिमहानसीपितं वास्तुविद्या-कुशलः प्रशस्तं गृहमेव तावत् पूर्वमुपकल्पयेत् ।

ततः शीलशौचानुरागदाढ्यप्रादलिख्योपपन्नानुपचारकुशलान् सर्व्वकर्मसु पर्यवदातान् सूपीदनपाचकस्नापकसंवाहकोत्यापकसंवेशकौषधपेषकांश्च परिचारकान् सर्व्वकर्मस्वप्रतिकुलान् । तथा गीतवादिचोद्भापकश्लोकगायाख्यायिकेतिहास-पुराणकुशलानाभिप्राय-ज्ञाननुमतांश्च देशकालविदः परिषदांश्च । तथा लावकपिञ्जलशशहरिणैर्नैकालपुच्छकमृगमातृकोरभान् । गाञ्च दीर्घ्वां शीलवतीमनातुरां जीवदत्सां सुप्रतिविहितवृणशरणापानीयाम् । जलपात्राचमनीदकीष्टमणिकपिठरघटकुम्भीकुम्भकुण्डशरावदर्व्वीकपरीपचनमन्यान्चेलसूचकार्पासी-र्णादीनि च शयनासनादीनि चौपत्यस्तम्भद्वारप्रतिग्रहाणि सुप्रयुक्तास्तरणौत्तरप्रच्छदीपधानानि स्नापाश्रयानि संवेशनीपवेशनस्नेहस्वेदाभ्यङ्गप्रदेहे परिषेकानुलिपनवमनविरेचनास्थापनानुवासन-शिरीविरेचनमूचीचारकर्मणामुपचारसुखानिसुप्रक्षालितोपधानाश्च स्नानस्नानमभ्यसा दृशद शस्त्राणि चोपकरणार्थानि ।

धूमनेत्रं वस्तिनेत्रञ्चोत्तरवस्तिकञ्च । कुशहस्तञ्च तुलाञ्च मानभाण्डञ्च घृततैलवसामञ्चचौद्र-फाणितलवर्णैश्चनोदक-मधुसुरासौवीरकतुषोदकमैरेयमेदकदधिमण्डोदश्विज्जानास्त्रमूत्राणि च । तथा शालिषटिकमुद्रमाषयवतिलकुललवणवदरसङ्घीकापरुषकाभयामलकविभीतकानि नानाविधानि च स्नेहस्वीदापकरणानि द्रव्याणि तत्रैवोर्ध्वहरणानुलोमिकीभयभञ्जि संयहनीयदीपनीयपाचनीयीपश्मनीयवातहराणि समाख्यातानि चौषधानि यच्चान्यदपि किञ्चिद्वापदः परिसंख्यायीपकरणं विद्यते यच्च प्रतिभीगाथं तत्तदुपकल्पयेत् ॥



He advises us as follows:—The engineer is to erect a strong and spacious building, well-ventilated at one part, the other part being free from draughts. The scenery should be pleasing and one should feel happy to walk in it. It must not be behind any high building, nor exposed to the glare of the sun. It should be inaccessible to smoke and dust. There must not be anything injurious to our senses as regards sound, touch, taste, form and smell. There should be stairs, large wooden mortars and pestles; and there must be additional bare ground for the construction of a privy, bath-room and kitchen. The staff should consist of servants and companions. The servants should be good, virtuous, pure, fond, clever, generous, well trained in nursing, skillful in works, able to cook rice and curries well, competent to administer a bath, expert masseur<sup>1</sup>, trained in raising and moving a patient, dexterous in making or cleaning beds, practiced in the art of compounding medicines and willing workers not likely to show displeasure to any order. The companions should be good singers and musicians, fluent speakers, well-versed in distichs, ballads, tales, history and mythology, well-acquainted with the design of a patient's nods or signals, agreeable and should have knowledge of the season and the locality. The various kinds of animals

<sup>1</sup> From the accounts of Megasthenes, we learn that four attendants used to massage him (Candragupta) with ebony rollers during the time that he was engaged in disposing of cases. Such an attendant (*saṁvāhaka*) is a minor character in the Toy Cart or little Clay Cart, drama, transl. by Ryder, in Harvard Oriental Series, Vol. IX, 1905—Smith's Early History of India, 2nd Ed., Page 122. Footnote. We also find in the Kāmandikya Nīṭisāra that the king is cautioned against shampooers who have the opportunity of poisoning him.

सूद्व्यञ्जनकर्त्तारस्तत्पका व्ययकास्तथा ।

प्रसाधका भोजकाश्च गावसंवाहका अपि ॥



should always be kept in stock such as Lāva (*Perdix Chinensis*), Kapiñjala (partridge), hares, sheep and the different kinds of deers, Ena (the black antelope) blacktailed deer, and Mrgamātrka. There should be a diary attached to the building. The cow should be good natured and healthy, and should yield profuse milk. The calves must be living. There should be stocked for them potable water and hay in a clean fold. In that building must be kept the following necessary articles:—

Water vessels, washing basins, tubs, jars, dishes, ghata, (small jars) kumbhī, kumbha (larger and smaller vessels), kundu (jug or pitcher), soraba (earthen basins), spoons or ladles, cooking utensils, churning rods, cloth, thread, cotton, wool, bedding and āsana (seats). Near them should be placed drinking vessels of gold and spittoons. The bedding should consist of a broad carpet, bed-sheet, pillows, and a bedstead. There should be collected good furnitures for beds and seats; and also utensils and appliances for application of oleaginous medicines, heat, oil, ointment, bath and perfumeries, and for the acts of emesis, purgation, draining of the brain, injection into the rectum, defaecation and urination (*i.e.* Vastīyantra, urinal, bed-pan &c.). The blunt and sharp instruments and their accessories, well-washed mullers and whetstones of different degrees of smoothness—polished, plain or rough—should be near at hand; the tubular instruments for fumigation, inhalation and injection into the rectum, urethra and vagina, should be available there; and the following articles are also to be stocked:—brushes and brooms, weighing scales and weights, ghee (melted butter), oil, fat, marrow, honey, molasses, salt, wood, water, spirituous liquor formed by steeping husked grains of barley in water, or by boiling together the husks of fried māskalāya



(pulse of Phaseolous Rox.), barley and water, spirituous liquor from the blossoms of *Lythrum Fruticose* with sugar, spirit distilled from the different sorts of grains, curdled milk, rice, gruel, whey, sour liquid produced from the acetous fermentation of powdered paddy, and the various kinds of urines of animals. Different kinds of rice such as Śālī (or that reaped in cold season) and Saṣṭhika (or that grown in hot weather in low lands and reaped within sixty days of its sowing), Mudga (*Phaseolus mungo*), Māṣa (*Phaseolus Rox.*), Yava (*Hordeum Vulgare*), sesame (*Seasamum Indicum*), Kullatha (*Dolichos Biflorus*), plums (*Zizyphus Jujube*), raisins (*Vitis Vinifera*), Paruṣa (*Grewia Asiatica*), Abhayā (*Chebulic Myrobolan*), Āmlakī (*Phyllanthus Emblica*), Vibhītaka (*Terminalia Bellerica*) and other classes of medicaments, as oils, diaphoretics, sternutatories, cathartics, emetics, purgatives, astringents, stomachics, digestives, calmatives, carminatives and various other forms of medicines, are required for treatment. Besides these, there must be stored the antidotes to poisons caused by overdoses of medicines and other appliances likely to add to the patient's comfort.

To this may be compared the description of the Greek iatrium, which is mentioned in the Hippocratic treatise, *De Medicis*. He directs that "it should be so constructed that neither the wind nor sun might prove offensive to the patient, and goes on to enumerate the various articles which it should contain, such as scalpels, lancets, cupping-instruments, trepans, raspatories, with bandages and medicines." <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Works of Hippocrates, Syd. Soc. Vol. II, page 470, Footnote.



Suśruta gives us a list of appliances<sup>1</sup> required in surgical operations:—

1. Blunt Instruments. 2. Sharp Instruments. 3. Potential Caution. 4. Actual Caution. 5. Śalākā or rods. 6. Horns. 7. Leeches. 8. Hollow bottle gourd. 9. Jāmbav-ouṣṭha [a bougie of blackstone, the extremity of which is shaped like the fruit of the Jambul tree (*Urginea Jāmbolana*)]. 10. Cotton. 11. Pieces of cloth. 12. Thread. 13. Leaves. 14. Materials of bandaging. 15. Honey. 16. Ghee, or clarified butter. 17. Suet. 18. Milk. 19. Oils. 20. Tarpan.—flour of any perched grain or condensed milk etc. mixed with water to mitigate thirst. 21. Decoctions. 22. Liniments. 23. \* Plasters. 24. Fan. 25. Cold and hot water. 26. Iron pans, kalasi and other earthen vessels; beddings and seats. 27. Obedient, steady and strong servants.

*The Lying-in-room.*—Caraka says: "Before the ninth month of pregnancy, the lying-in-room should be constructed. The land should be cleaned of bones, gravels and potsherds. The ground selected should be of auspicious colour, taste and smell. The gate of the house should face towards the east or the north.<sup>2</sup> There must be a store of wood such as *Vilva* (*Ægle*

<sup>1</sup> अतोऽनामतं कर्म चिकीर्षता वैद्येन पूर्णमेवीपकप्रयितव्यानि तद्यथा यत्नशस्त्रचाराग्नि-शलाकाशङ्खजलौकालावूजाम्बवीठपिचुप्रीतसूत्रपत्रपट्टमधूघृतवसापयस्त्रैलतर्पनकषायलेपन कल्क-व्यजनशीतोष्णोदक कटाहदीपन पारकर्मणश्च स्निग्धाः स्थिरा बलवन्तः ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā. I. v.

<sup>2</sup> "The best sort of ground should abound with milky trees, full of fruits and flowers; its boundary should be of a quadrangular form, level and smooth, with a sloping declivity towards the east producing a hard sound, with a stream running from left to right, of an agreeable odour, fertile, of an uniform



Marmelos, Tinduka (*Diospyros Embryopteris*), Inguda (*Balanites* Rox.) Bhallākaka (*Semecarpus Anacardium*), Vāruṇa (*Ocimum Basilicum*), Khadira (*Acacia Catechu*) or wood of other kinds said to be auspicious by a Brāhman versed in the Atharvaveda; and there must be a sufficient provision for clothes, liniments, and covers. For the pregnant woman, be careful to have a fire-place, water, pestles and mortars, a privy, a bathing place, and ovens. These should be constructed according to the science of engineering and should be pleasant with regard to the season. There should be collected clarified butter, oil, honey, different kinds of salts as rock salt, sonchal salt, and black salt, Viḍaṅgas (*Embelic Ribes*), treacle, Kuṣṭha (*Saussurea Lappa*), Kilima (*Pinus Deodara*), Nāgara (dried root of *Zinziber Officinale*), Pippalī (*Piper Longum*), its root, Hastipippalī (*Scindaspus Officinalis*), Mandukparni (*Hydroctyle Asiatica*), Elā (*Elettarium Cardamomum*), Lāngolī (*Gloriosa Superba*), Vāca (*Acorus Calamus*), Cavya (*Piper Cava*), Chitraka (*Plumbago Zeylanicum*), Chiravilva (*Pongamia Glabra*), Hingu (*Ferrula Assafoetida*), Sarṣapa (Mustard seeds), Laṣuna (*Allium Sativum*), finely or thickly powdered rice, Kadamba (*Anthocephalous Kadamba*), Ātasi (*Linum Usitatissimum*), Vallija (*Cucurbita Pepo*), Bhurya (*Betula Bhojpatra*), Kulatha (*Dolichos Uniflorus*), Maireya (a spirituous liquor from the blossoms of *Lythrum Frutecoscence*) and Āshava (Vinous fermented liquor from sugar or molasses, Rum). Also collect two pieces of

colour containing a great quantity of soil, producing water when dug to the height of a man's arm raised above his head, and situated in a climate of moderate temperature."

Manosara, Ch. I. quoted in Ram Raz's *The Architecture of the Hindus*, Page 16.

stone (muller and stone slabs), two pestles, two mortars, an ass, a bullock, two sharp needles of gold and silver, two skeins of threads, sharp instruments of steel, two wooden bedsteads (*Ægle Marmelos*), and wood (*Tinduka* and *Ingudi*) for easily igniting fire. The female attendants should be mothers of children, and friends and relatives of the patients. They must be fond of her, skillful in work, intelligent, jolly, laborious full of tender love for the children and a favourite of the mother.”<sup>1</sup>

*The Child's Room*:—He continues—“The engineer is to construct a room, spacious, beautiful, full of light, well-ventilated but free from draughts, strong, and free from beasts of prey, animals with fangs, mice and insects. There should be kept water, mortar and separate places should be assigned for bathing, cooking, urination and defæcation. It should suit the season of the year. The beddings, seats and covers should be comfortable and suitable to the season. Auspicious ceremonies should be performed in that room such as *homa*, expiations and presents to gods, for the proper protection of the child; and there should be present pious old men, doctors, and devoted

<sup>1</sup> प्राक् चैवास्या नवमान्मासात् सुतिकागारं कारयेदपहृतास्त्रिशर्कराकपालिदेशं प्रशस्तरूपरसगन्धार्था भूमौ प्राग्द्वारमुदग्द्वारं वा । तत्र वैस्वानां काष्ठानां तिन्दुकैर्द्वादानां भस्मातकानां वारुणानां खदिरानां वा यानि चानान्यपि ब्राह्मणाः शंसियुरथर्ववेदविदस्तद्वसनालिपनाकादनापिधानसम्पदुपेतं तत् । वास्तुविद्या-हृदययोगेनाग्निसलिलोलुखलवर्षः स्थानज्ञानभूमिमहानसस्तुसुखञ्च । तत्र सर्पिलैर्मधुसैम्बवसौवर्चलकाललवणविङ्गुगुङ्कुष्ठकिलिमनागरपिप्यलौमूलहस्तिपिप्यलौमण्डूकर्णालालाङ्गलीवचाचव्यचिचकचिरवित्त्व-हिङ्गुसर्पपलशुनकनकनिकानौपातसौवर्लिवजभूर्जाः कुलत्थमैरियमुरासवाः सन्निहिताः सुः ॥ यथाश्मानौ द्वौ द्वे चण्डमूषले द्वे उलूखले खरो वृषभश्च द्वौ च तीक्ष्णौ सूचीपिप्यलकौ सौवर्णराजतौ द्वे शस्त्राणि च तीक्ष्णायसानि द्वौ च वित्त्वमयी पर्यङ्गौ तैन्दुकैर्द्वादानि काष्ठान्यग्निसम्बुक्षणाणि स्त्रियश्च बह्वी वहुशः प्रजाताः सौहाईयुक्ताः सततमनुरक्ताः प्रदक्षिणाचाराः प्रतिपत्तिकुशलाः प्रकृतिवत्सलास्त्वक्ताविषादाः क्लेशसङ्घिणवोऽभिमता ब्राह्मणसाथर्ववेदविदो यच्चान्यदपि तत्र समर्थं मन्येत यच्च ब्राह्मणाः ब्रूयुः स्त्रियश्च वृद्धास्तत्कार्यम् ॥



attendants constantly. The child's bed, covers and sheets should be soft, light, pure and scented. These should always be free from sweat, dirt, worms or bugs, urine and faeces. If repeated change of new clothes be impossible, the soiled coverings should be well washed and the beddings well purified with steam and thoroughly dried before they are used again. To purify or sterilise the dress, beddings, coverings and sheets by fumigation use the following medicines with clarified butter:—Barley (*Hordeum Vulgare*), mustard seeds, linseeds, assafoetida, Guggula (*Balsamodendron Mukul*), Vāca (*Acorus Calamus*), Coraka (*Andropogon Acicularis*), Vayasthā (*Chebulic Myrobolan*), Golomi (*Panicum Dactylon*), Jaṭilā (*Nardostachys Jatamansi*), Palankaṣā (a variety of Guggula), Aśoka (*Saraca Indica*), Rohiṇī (*Picrorrhiza Kurroa*) and sankes' skin.....A variety of toys to please the child should be at hand and these should be coloured, light, musical, beautiful and must not be sharp pointed. They should be of such a size and shape as cannot be put into the child's mouth or do not terrify or kill the child."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> अतीऽनन्तरं कुमारगारविधिमनुव्याख्यास्यामः ॥ वानुविद्याकुशलः प्रशस्तं रम्यमतमस्तं निवातं प्रवातैकदेशं दृढमपगतश्वपदपशुदंष्ट्रिमूषिकपतङ्गं सुसंविभक्तसलिलोदूखलमूत्रवर्चः-स्थानस्नानभूमिमहानसस्तुसुखं यथतुं शयनासनास्तरणसम्पन्नं कुर्यात् । तथा सुविहित-रक्षाविधानवलिमङ्गलहीमप्रायश्चित्तं शुचिद्वैद्यानुरक्तजनसम्पूर्णमिति । कुमारगारविधिः ॥ शयनास्तरणप्रावरणानि कुमारस्य स्तुलपुत्रयुचिसुगन्धीनि स्युः । स्वेदमलजन्तुमनि मूत्रपुरी-षीपसृष्टानि च वज्र्यानि स्युः ॥ असति सम्भवेऽन्येषां तान्येव च सुप्रचालितपीधानानि सुधूपितानि सुगन्धशुक्लाण्युपयोगं गच्छेयुः । धूपनानि पुनर्वाससां शयनास्तरणप्रावरणानाञ्च यवसर्षपातसीहिङ्गुगुग्गुलवचाचोरकवयःस्थागीलीमीजटिलापलङ्कषाशोकरीहिणीसर्पनिर्मोकानि धृतसम्प्रयुक्तानि स्युः ॥ मणयथ धारणीयाः कुमारस्य खङ्गरुगवयवधभानां जीवतामेव दक्षिणेत्यो विषाणेत्योऽयाणि गृहीतानि स्युः । मन्त्राद्याशौषधयो जीवकर्षभकौ च दान्यन्यानि ब्राह्मणाः प्रशंसयुः । क्रीडनकानि खल्वस्य तु विचित्राणि धौषवन्धभिरा-माणि अगुरुख्यतीक्ष्णायानि अनास्यप्रवेशीनि अप्राणहराणि अविवासनानि स्युः ॥

Suśruta directs that there should be a particular room provided for patients who have undergone surgical operations.<sup>1</sup> "Patients suffering from surgical diseases as inflammatory swelling, wounds &c. should, from the very commencement of their illness, confine themselves inside a clean house, situated in a wholesome locality, free from draughts and not exposed to the glare of the sun. For, in such a building, constitutional, mental and accidental diseases are not likely to occur. In that room, the bed for the patients should be soft, spacious, and well-arranged. The patient should lie down, his

<sup>1</sup> ब्रणिनः प्रथममेवागारमन्विच्छेत्तच्चागारं प्रशस्तवास्वादिकं कार्यम् । •

प्रशस्तवास्तुनिगृहे शुचावातपवर्जिते ।

निवाते न च रोगाः स्याः शरीरागन्तुमानसाः ॥

तस्मिन् शयनमसम्बाधं स्वास्तीर्णं मनीजं प्राक्शिरस्कं सशस्त्रं कुर्वीत ।

सुखचेष्टाप्रचारः स्यात् स्वास्तीर्णं शयने ब्रवी ।

प्राच्यां दिशि स्थिता देवास्तत्पूजार्थं नतं शिरः ॥

तस्मिन् सुहृद्भिरनुकूलैः प्रियम्बदेरुपास्थमानो यथेष्टमासीत् ।

सुहृदी विक्षिपन्त्याश्च कथाभिर्ब्रणवेदनाः ।

आश्रवासयन्तो बहुशस्त्रानुकूलाः प्रियम्बदाः ॥

न च दिवानिद्रावशगः स्यात् ।

दिवास्त्रप्राङ्मुखे कण्डूर्गावाणां गीरवं तथा ।

शययुज्ज्वेदनारागः स्तावयैव भृशं भवेत् ॥

उत्थानसंवेशनपरिवर्तनचक्रमणौघैर्भाषणादिषु चात्मचेष्टास्वप्नमत्तो ब्रणं संरक्षेत् ।

स्थानासनं चक्रमणं यानयानातिभाषणं ।

ब्रणवान्न निषेवेत शक्तिमानपि मानवः ॥

उत्थानाद्यासनं स्थानं शय्यां चातिनिषेविता ।

प्राप्तुयान्मारुतादङ्गे रुजस्तस्माद्विवर्जयेत् ॥

गम्याणाञ्च स्त्रीणां सन्दर्शनमसम्भाषणसंस्पर्शनानिदूरतः परिहरित् ।





head pointing towards the east, and keep there some weapon for his own protection. On such a bed, the patient can lie comfortably and turn to his sides at pleasure. He should be surrounded by his dear friends, for their sweet words relieve the pain of inflammation. The female friends, however, should be avoided and kept at a distance. He should observe strictly the orders of the surgeon as regards his food, drink and mode of living. He should have his hairs clipped and nails pared short, be pure in his person, put on white clothes and devote himself to religious duties. A light should be kept burning; and garlands of flower, weapons &c., should be provided in the room to ward off the demons. He should be cheered and inspired by pleasant stories; and the physicians and the priests should attend the patient morning and evening. Pastils made of *Sinapis Nigra* and *Azadirachta Indica* with clarified butter and salt, should be burnt in the room morning and evening for ten days continually. The inflamed part should be fanned with a *cāmar* or yolk-tail. Sleep during the day, exercise and sexual intercourse must on no account be indulged in."

Suśruta also describes the kitchen of the king thus:—"That is the proper kitchen which is built on good ground, towards an auspicious quarter, full of utensils for cooking, spacious, clean, provided with windows guarded by a network, frequented by friends, cleared well of grass furnished with a canopy, purified by auspicious ceremonies, and managed by men and women of good character. The superintendent of the kitchen should, like the doctor, be noble and virtuous. The cook and servants should be pure, noble, capable, mild, good looking, engaged in their respective duties, high-minded, should have their hairs and nails cut short, steady,

well-bathed, of subdued passion, well-dressed, obedient and have their heads well-covered."

"The doctor in charge of the kitchen should be of noble family, religious, friendly, a clever manager for getting king's food properly prepared, ever careful for his health, non-avaricious, simple, fond, grateful, good-looking, cool-tempered, well-behaved, not proud and envious, laborious, of subdued passion, forgiving, pure, of good character, kind, intelligent, not easily fatigued, always loving, well wisher, capable, bold, clever, skillful, not unreasonably tender, provided with medicines and well proficient in the art of healing."<sup>1</sup>

1

कुलीनं धार्मिकं क्षिप्रं सुभृतं सततीत्यतः ।  
 अलब्धं अशतं भक्तं कृतव्रतं प्रियदर्शनं ॥  
 क्रोधपाकृत्यमात्सर्यं मदालस्य विवर्जितं ।  
 जितेन्द्रियं चमावन्तं शुचिं शीलदयान्वितं ॥  
 मेधाविनमसंशान्तमनुरक्तं हितैषिणं ।  
 पटुं प्रगल्भं निपुणं दक्षं मायाविवर्जितं ॥  
 पूर्वोक्तैश्च गुणैर्युक्तं नित्यं सन्निहितागदं ।  
 महानसे प्रयुज्यते वैद्यं तद्विद्यपूजितं ॥  
 प्रशस्तदिग्देशकृतं शुचिभाण्डं महच्छुचि ।  
 सजालकं गवाक्षाढ्य मात्मवर्गं निषेवितं ॥  
 विकचसृष्टसंछष्टं सवितानं कृतार्चनं ।  
 परीक्षितं स्त्रीपुरुषं भवेच्चापि महानसं ॥  
 तत्राध्यक्षं नियुज्यते प्रायः वैद्यगुणान्वितं ।  
 शुचयो दक्षिणा दक्षाः विनौताः प्रियदर्शनाः ॥  
 सविभक्ताः सुमनसो नौच केशनखाः स्थिराः ।  
 स्नातादृढः संयमिनः कृतोष्णीषाः सुसंयुताः ॥  
 तस्याचात्रा विधेयासु विविधाः परिकर्मिणः ।  
 आहारस्थित यथापि भवन्ति प्राणिनी यतः ॥  
 तस्मान्महानसे वैद्यः प्रमाद रहितो भवेत् ।  
 माहानसिक वीदारः सौपौदनिक पौषिकाः ॥  
 भवेयुर्वैद्यवशगा ये चाप्यन्ये तु केचन ।  
 इज्जितह्नी मनुष्याणां वाक्चेष्टमुखवेकृतेः ॥



In the Kāmandakiya Nitisāra, we find the king advised to take thoroughly examined food, and to be surrounded by physicians well-versed in the science of Toxicology;<sup>1</sup> and again it is said that king should take his medicines, cordials, and edibles after having his medical attendants tasted them.<sup>2</sup> The king is advised to kill his enemy by weaning over his physician or by administering poisonous liquids.<sup>3</sup>

In the Mahāvāgga<sup>4</sup> we find the qualities of a good patient and a good nurse described :—

“6. What are five qualities, O Bhikkhus, which when a sickman has, he is easy to wait upon—

When he does do what is good for him ; when he does know the limit (of the quantity of the food) that is good for him ; when he does take his medicine, when he does let a nurse who desires his good, know what manner of disease he has, or when he is getting worse that that is so, or when it is getting better that that is so ; and when he has become able to bear bodily pains that are severe, sharp, grievous, disagreeable, unpleasant and destructive to life. These are the five qualities, O Bhikkhus, which when a sickman has, he is easy to wait upon.

<sup>1</sup> विषघ्नैरुदकैः स्नातः विषघ्नमनिभूषितः ।

परौचितं समन्वीयाज्जाडुत्वाविद्विषगवतः ॥ १० ॥

Kāmandakya Nitisāra vii. v. 10.

<sup>2</sup> औषधानि च सर्वानि पानं पानीयमेव च ।

तत्कल्पकैः समाखाद्य प्राग्नीयाद्भोजनानि च ॥ २७ ॥

Ibid. vii. v. 27.

<sup>3</sup> भिषग्मेदेन वा शत्रुं रसदानेन साध्ययेत् ॥ ७० ॥

Ibid. IX. v. 70.

<sup>4</sup> Mahāvāgga viii. 26, 6 & 8 (Sacred Books of the East).



8. There are five qualities, O Bhikkhus, which, when one who waits upon the sick has, he is competent to the task—when he is capable of prescribing medicines; when he does know what (diet) is good and what is not good for the patient, serving what is good and not serving what is not good for him; when he does wait upon the sick out of love, and not out of greed; when he does not revolt from removing evacuation, saliva or vomit; when he is capable of teaching, inciting, arousing and gladdening the patient with religious discourses. These are the five qualities, O Bhikkhus, which, when one who waits upon the sick has, he is competent to the task.”

There is also good deal of evidence to show that medicines were distributed free to the poor and to the pious men. When Viṣakhā asked for eight boons of the Buddha, she mentioned amongst them the privilege of bestowing her life long “food for the sick, food for those who wait upon the sick and medicines for the sick” and explained her reasons as follows<sup>1</sup> :—

“9. Moreover, Lord, if a sick Bhikkhu does not obtain suitable foods, his sickness may increase upon him, or he may die. But if a Bhikkhu have taken the diet that I shall have provided for the sick neither will his sickness increase upon him, nor will he die. It was this circumstance, Lord, that I had in view in desiring to provide the Saṃgha my life long with diet for the sick.

Moreover, Lord, a Bhikkhu who is waiting upon the sick if he has to seek out food for himself, may bring in the food (to the invalid) when the sun is already far on his course, and he will lose the opportunity of taking his food. But when

<sup>1</sup> Mahāvāgga VIII, 15-9.



he has partaken of the food I shall have provided for those who wait upon the sick, he will bring in food to the invalid in due time and he will not lose the opportunity of taking his food. It was this circumstances, Lord, that I had in view in desiring to provide the Samgha my life long with food for those who wait upon the sick.

10. Moreover, Lord if a sick Bhikkhu does not obtain suitable medicines his sickness may increase upon him, or he may die. But if a Bhikkhu have taken the medicines which I shall have provided for the sick, neither will his sickness increase upon him, nor will he die. It was this circumstance, Lord, that I had in view in desiring to provide the Samgha, my life long with medicines for the sick."

The Edict No. II of Aśoka clearly shows that charitable institutions were common in India, during his reign. The Edict runs as follows :—

"Everywhere in the kingdom of the king Piyadasi, beloved of the gods, and also of the nations who live in the frontiers such as the Cholas, the Pandyas, the realms of Satyaputra and Keralaputra, as far as Tambapani, (and in the kingdom of) Antiochus, king of the Greeks and of the kings who are his neighbours, everywhere the king Piyadasi, beloved of the gods, has provided medicines of two sorts, medicines for men and medicines for animals. Wherever plants useful either for men or for animals were wanting they have been imported and planted. Wherever roots and fruits were wanting, they have been imported and planted. And along public roads, wells have been dug for the use of animals and men."

We also learn from Houen Tsang's account that Śīlāditya II

( 610 - 650 A. D. ) was inclined towards Buddhism and he forbade the slaughter of living animals, built *stupas*, and "in all the highways of the towns and villages throughout India, he erected hospices, provided with food and drink, and stationed there physicians with medicines for travellers and poor persons round about, to be given without any stint."<sup>1</sup>

He also mentions about the father of the Bhikkhu Śrutaviṃśatikoti, that "from his house to the snowy mountains, he had established a succession of rest-houses, from which his servants continually went from one to the other. Whatever valuable medicines were wanted, they communicated the same to each other in order, and so procured them without loss of time, so rich was this family."<sup>2</sup>

He also mentions charitable institutions called *Punyaśālās* as common in India. "There were formerly in this country (Tsch-kia-Takka) many houses of charity (goodness or happiness, *Punyaśālās*) for keeping the poor and the unfortunate. They provided for them medicines and food, clothing and necessities; so that travellers were never badly off."<sup>3</sup>

Again he says : "Benevolent kings have founded here (Mo-ti-pil-lo or Matipura) a house of "merit" (*Punyaśālās*). This foundation is endowed with funds for providing choice food and medicines to bestow in charity on widows and bereaved persons, on orphans and the destitute."<sup>4</sup> A similar *Punyaśālā* or hospice was in K'ei-P'an-to (Kabandha).<sup>5</sup> In describing

<sup>1</sup> Beal's Record, Vol. I, p. 214.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*, Vol. II, p. 188.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*, Vol. I, p. 165.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*, Vol. I, p. 198.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid*, Vol. II, p. 303.





Multan he says: "They have founded a house of mercy (happiness), in which they provide food, and drink, and medicines for the poor, and sick, affording succour and sustenance."<sup>1</sup> Of Śilāditya he says: "Every year he assembled the Sramanas from all countries, and on the third and seventh days he bestowed on them in charity four kinds of Alms (*viz.*—food, drink, medicine, clothing)."<sup>2</sup>

Fa Hian (405-11 A.D.), a contemporary of Candragupta Vikramāditya, describes the charitable dispensaries in the town of Pāṭāliputra thus:—"The nobles and householders of this country have founded hospitals within the city to which the poor of all countries, the destitute, cripple and the diseased may repair. They receive every kind of requisite help gratuitously. Physicians inspect their diseases, and according to their cases order them food and drink, medicines or decoctions, every thing in fact that may contribute to their ease. When cured, —they depart at their convenience."<sup>3</sup> Smith remarks: "No such foundation was to be seen elsewhere in the world at this date; and its existence, anticipating the deeds of modern Christian charity, speaks well both for the character of the citizens who endowed it, and for the genius of the great Aśoka whose teaching still bore such wholesome fruit many centuries after his decease. The earliest hospital in Europe, the Maison Dieu of Paris, is said to have been opened in the 7th centuries."<sup>4</sup>

"Upatisso, son of Buddha Das, builds Hospitals for cripples,

<sup>1</sup> Beal's Record, Vol. II, p. 274.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*, Vol. I, p. 214.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*, Vol. I, Intro. lci.

<sup>4</sup> Smith's Early History of India, 2nd Ed., p. 280.



for pregnant women, and for the blind and diseased.<sup>1</sup> Dhatushena builds Hospitals for cripples and sick<sup>2</sup>. Buddha Das<sup>3</sup> himself ordained a physician for every ten villages on the high road, and built assylums for the crippled, deformed and destitute."<sup>4</sup>

The animal Hospitals or Piñjrapoles which still exist at Ahmedabad, Surat, and Sodepore in Bengal, and elsewhere may be regarded as the survivals of the institutions founded by the Maurya monarch. The following account of the Surat Hospital in the 18th century is from the pen of Hamilton:—

"The most remarkable institution in Surat is the Banyan Hospital, of which we have no discription more recent than 1780. It then consisted of a large piece of ground enclosed by high walls, and sub-divided into several courts or yards for the accommodation of animals. In sickness they were attended with the greatest care, and here found a peaceful assylum for the infirmities of old age.

"When an animal broke a limb, or was otherwise disabled, his owner brought him to the Hospital, when he was received without regard to the caste or nation of his master. In 1772 this hospital contained horse, mules, oxen, sheep, goats, monkees, poultry, pigeons, and variety of birds; and also an aged tortoise, which was known to have been there seventy-five years. The most extraordinary ward was that appropriated for rats, mice, bugs, and other noxious vermins for whom suitable food was provided."<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mahāwanśo, p. 249.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*, p. 245.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*, p. 256.

<sup>4</sup> Cunningham's Bhilsa Topes, p. 54, foot note.

<sup>5</sup> Hamilton's Description of Hindustan (120) Vol. I, p. 718, quarto ed., Crooke. Things Indian, Art. Pinjrapole, (Murray 1906).



We quote here from Hemādri the opinions of the sages and the Purāṇas as to the merit of the founder of a hospital<sup>1</sup> :—

### Visvāmītra.

There is no gift more precious than the gift of cure ; therefore it should be given freely to the sick to augment one's good fortune. He who gives medicines, diet, food, oil for smearing and shelter to the sick, becomes free from all diseases.

### Samvartta.

The giver of medicines, oleaginous remedies and food for the cure of the sick, becomes free from all diseases, happy and long-lived.

### Agastya.

Those who give rice and medicines freely attain happiness, being free from disease.

### Saura Purāṇa.

He, who gives medicines to the sick to cure their diseases always remains healthy, long-lived and happy.

<sup>1</sup> अथ आरोग्यदानं ।

तच्चारोग्यदानन्ताव दुच्यते ।

आह विश्वामित्रः ।

आरोग्यदानान्तरमं न दानं विद्यते क्वचित् ।

अतीदयं रुजार्त्तानामारोग्यं भाग्यवृद्धये ॥

अषधं पथ्यमाहारं तैलाभ्यङ्गप्रतिश्रयं ।

यः प्रयच्छति रोगिभ्यः सभवेद्धाधिर्वर्जितः ॥

संवर्त्तः ।

अषधं स्नेह-माहारं रोगिणां रोगशान्तये ।

ददानो रोगरहितः सुखी दीर्घायुरेव च ॥



### Nandi Purāna.

The high-souled man who gives the Brahmins collyrium in charity to cure the diseases of the eye, goes to the Sun (after death) and becomes free from eye diseases, fine-looking and fortunate.

Good health is a step to the acquirement of religious merit, wealth, pleasure and final emancipation, and so the man who bestows cure to the sick and also he who erects a hospital equipped with good medicaments, dresses, learned doctors, servants and rooms for students, always gain them. The doctor should be well-versed in the religious treatises, experienced, familiar with the actions of medicines, a discriminator of the colour of the roots of the herbals and well-acquainted with the

#### अगस्त्यः ।

अन्नौषधप्रदातारः सुखं याति निरामयाः ।

#### सौर पुराणे ।

रोगिणी रोगशान्त्यर्थमौषधं यः प्रयच्छति ।

रोगहीनः स दीर्घायुः सुखी भवति सर्वदा ॥

#### नन्दि पुराणे ।

अन्नं यो नरोदद्यादक्षीर्व्याधिनिहतये ।

विप्राय स पुमान् याति सूर्यलीकं महामतिः ।

आरोग्यनयनी दिव्यः सुभगी जायते नरः ॥

#### तस्मिन्नेव पुराणे ।

धर्मार्थकाममौक्षाणां आरोग्यं साधनैर्युतः ।

अतस्तारोग्यदानेन नरो भवति सर्वदा ॥

आरोग्यशालां कुरुते महौषधपरिहृदां ।

विदग्धवैद्यसंयुक्तां मृत्यावसथसंयुक्तां ॥





proper season of raising them from the ground, well-trained with the qualities of the juices, (their strength and actions), śālī rice, meat and medicaments, trained in compounding medicines, one who knows well of the physique of men by intelligence, one who knows the temperament and the qualities of the diet, a pathologist who is not idle, well acquainted with the remedial agents for the premonitory signs and sequelæ of diseases, proficient in the requirements of time and place, well-read in the medical text-books—the Ayurveda with its eight divisions and an expert in curing diseases by domestic remedies (prepared from handful of common ingredients).

The pious man who erects such a hospital in which the services of good physicians of this nature are retained, becomes celebrated as the virtuous, the successful and the intelligent

वेद्यस्तु शास्त्रवित् प्राज्ञो दृष्टौषधपराक्रमः ।

औषधीमूलवर्णज्ञः समुद्धरणकालवित् ॥

रसवीर्यविपाकज्ञः शालिमांसौषधीगणे ।

योगविद्वेहिनां देहं यो धिया प्रविशेद्बुधः ॥

धातुपथ्यमयज्ञश्च निदानविदतन्द्रितः ।

व्याधीनां पूर्वलिङ्गज्ञस्तदुत्तरविधानवित् ॥

देशकालविधानशक्तित्साशास्त्रवित्तथा ।

अष्टाङ्गायुर्वेदवेत्ता मुष्टियोगविधानवित् ॥

### अष्टावङ्गानि आयुर्वेदस्य ।

यथाशल्यं शालाक्यं कायचिकित्सा भूतविद्या कौमारभृत्यमगदतन् रसायणतन् वाजी-  
करणतन्मिति सुश्रुतीक्तानि ।

एवं विधः शुभो वैद्यो भवेद्यत्राभिधीजितः ।

आरोग्यशालामवन्तु कुस्थीदीर्घर्म्मसंश्रयः ॥

स पुमान् धार्मिको लोके स कृतार्थः सुबुद्धिमान् ।

सम्यगारोग्यशालायामौषधैः स्नेहपाचनैः ॥



man in this world. If in such a hospital the kind-hearted man can cure a single patient of his maladies by simple medicines, oleaginous remedies and compounds of medicinal decoctions, goes to the Brahma's residence with his seven generations upwards. The rich and the poor acquire religious merit in proportion to the amount of riches they possess ; where would the poor man get a hospital and a young physician to cure his diseases ? The man secures the eternal regions mentioned before by rendering the sick healthy by the use of roots to some and by good rubbing (with external applications) to others. He who cures the sick suffering from an increase or decrease of the Air, the Bile and the Phlegm by simple remedies, he too goes to such blessed regions (after death) as are secured by those who perform many religious sacrifices (Yajñas).

व्याधिनं विरुजी कृत्य अप्येकं करुणायुतः ।  
 प्रयाति ब्रह्मसदनं कुलसप्तकसंयुतः ॥  
 आरोग्यं वित्तानुसारिणं दरिद्रः फलभाग् भवेत् ।  
 दरिद्रस्य कुतः शाला आरोग्याय भिषग्द्युवा ॥  
 अपिमूलिनं केनापि मर्द्दनाद्यैरथापि वा ।  
 स्वस्थौक्यं भवेन्मर्त्तं पूर्वोक्तं लोकमव्ययं ॥  
 वात-पित्त-कफाद्यानां चया-पचयभेदिनां ।  
 यस्तु स्वत्वाभ्युपायेन मोचयेत् व्याधिपौडितान् ॥  
 सीपि याति शुभान् लोकान् श्रवाण्यान् यज्ञयाजिभिः ।

### स्कन्दपुराणे ।

आरोग्यं शालां यः कुर्यात् महावैद्यपुरस्कृता ।  
 सर्वोपकरणीपेतां तस्य पुण्यफलं शृणु ॥  
 धर्मा-र्थ-काम-मोक्षाणामारोग्यं साधनं यतः ।  
 तस्मादारोग्यं दानेन तद्दत्तं स्याच्चतुष्टयं ॥  
 अथैकमर्त्तं विदांसं स्वस्थौक्यं प्रयवतः ।  
 प्राप्नोति सुमहत्पुण्यमनन्तं चयवर्जितं ॥  
 ज्ञानयोगरतं शान्तं रोगार्त्तं शिवयोगिनं ।  
 यः स्वस्थं कुरुते सीपि सर्वदानफलं लभेत् ॥





### Skandapurāṇa.

Hear, the amount of religious merit secured by a man who erects a hospital containing all the necessary articles (of treatment) and in which are engaged eminent physicians by reward. As good health is the means of attaining religious merit, wealth, pleasure and final emancipation, therefore, he by rendering the sick healthy, gives these four blessings.

By carefully curing a learned man of his sickness great merit is secured, which is eternal and indestructible. He too who cures a sickman who is calm and absorbed in meditation of Siva and knowledge, attains the virtue of all kinds of gifts. Bramhā, Viṣṇu, all the gods, diseases, relatives and kings—they are obstacles to yoga but not to those who perform it (yogi). Whatever merit is obtained by the great, by supporting the sick Brāhmans (priests), Kshatriyas (warriors), and Bīṭh (cultivators) and Sudras (servants), can not be obtained by the performance of all the great Yajñas (religious ceremonies). As even the gods can not reach the end of the

ब्रह्मा विश्वः सुराः सर्वे व्याधयः स्वजना नृपाः ।

योगस्यैते महाविघ्ना व्याधयस्ते न योगिनाः \* ॥

ब्रह्म-क्षत्रिय-विट्-शूद्रान् रोगार्तान् परिपाल्य च ।

यत्पुण्यं महदाप्नोति न तत्सर्वमहामखैः ॥

आकाशस्य यथा नान्तः सुरैरप्युपलभ्यते ।

तद्वदारीग्यदानस्य नान्तीवै विदधते क्वचित् ॥

पुण्येनानेन महता गत्वा शिवपुरं नरः ।

मीदते विविधैर्भोगैर्विमानैः सर्वकामिकैः ।

एकविंशत्कुलीपेतः सभृत्यः परिपालितः ।

आस्ते शिवपुरे ज्ञानदावदाहृतसंप्लवं ॥

ततः स्वधर्मशेषेण संप्राप्तः प्रयतः सदा ।

ज्ञानमुत्पद्यते तस्य रुद्रेभ्यः परिचारकः ॥

\* स्वेन योगिनामिति वा पाठः ।



firmament, so there is no end (to the merit) of the gift of cure. By this great merit, the man reaching the region of Siva enjoys himself by soaring in a balloon which can go to the various desired directions. With his twenty-one generations upwards and surrounded by his servants, he stays in the Siva's realm so long till deluge does not occur. There, after the lapse of his merit, the devoted servant acquires knowledge from Siva.

Abandoning this world by knowledge, abiding by the prayers to Siva, and casting away this body as a straw, he reaches beyond the limits of sorrow. Being freed from all sorrows, becoming pure, all-knowing and self-sufficient, and absorbed in his ownself, they are called the Liberated. Therefore to mitigate the diseases, the sick should be well nursed; the great sages should especially be attended to even by the sacrifice of one's body or riches. The wise must not irritate the weak patients, and they like the preceptors should be rescued constantly from sins. He who relieves the sick, by taking them under his care, reaches the other bank of this ocean of world.

ज्ञानादिरक्तः संसाराच्छिवध्यानमुपाश्रितः ।  
 स्वदेहं हणवन्तत्का सर्वदुःखान्त्माप्नुयात् ॥  
 समस्तदुःखनिर्मुक्तः शुद्धः स्वात्मव्यवस्थितः ।  
 सर्वज्ञः परिपूर्णश्च मुक्त इत्यभिधीयते ॥  
 तस्माद्भोगापवर्गार्थं रोगार्त्तं समुपाचरेत् ।  
 विशेषेण तु योगीन्द्रं शरीरेण धनेन च ॥  
 रोगिणी नीडिजेत् प्राज्ञो दुर्बलानपि सर्वदा ।  
 तान् पापाद् रुक्वन्नित्यमेवन्मर्त्यः प्रवर्त्तते ॥  
 योग्यहीतमात्मानं मन्त्रमानी दिने दिने ।  
 उपसर्पेत रोगार्त्तस्तीर्णस्तेन भवार्णवः ॥

### इत्यारोग्यदानं ।

Hemādri's Caturvarga, Cintāmoni, Dāna Khandam.  
 Asiatic Soc. Ed. Ch. XIII. P. 891—95.



After these proofs, the statement of Mr. Ameer Ali that "the Arabs invented chemical pharmacy, and were the founders of those institutions which are now called dispensaries"<sup>1</sup> can not be accepted as correct.

### DISPENSARIES.

As regards dispensaries, Suśruta advises the physician to construct his dispensary in a clean locality; and the building should face towards some auspicious direction as the east or the north. He says:—"The medicines should be kept in burnt earthen pots arranged on planks supported by stakes or pins".<sup>2</sup> This is still the method of storing medicines used by the *Kavirājas*. Dallvana explains the passage thus:—"The medicines should be kept in pieces of cloth, earthen pots, wooden pots and Śaṅku (kilaka)."<sup>3</sup> The former explanation is plausible for it is impossible to imagine how a kilaka or stake can be a container of medicine, unless it is implied as a point of support for hanging the medicine vials from it.

Dr. Heyne (1814) thus describes the ancient dispensaries of the Hindus: "The place in which medicines are kept should

<sup>1</sup> History of the Saracens p. 262, 1899.

<sup>2</sup> श्लोतसृङ्गाण्डफलकशङ्खुविन्यस्तभेषजं  
प्रशस्तायां दिशि शुचौ भेषजागारमिष्यते ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā. I. xxxvii.

<sup>3</sup> गृहीतीषधसंस्थापनोपायं दर्शयन्नाहः,—श्लोतेति । श्लोतः कर्पटखण्डं, सृदा भाण्डं, सृत्भाण्डं । फलकं पट्टकं इति पुस्तकान्तरे पाठः, शङ्खुः कौलकः, एतेषु श्लोतादिषु विन्यस्तं धृतं भेषजं यस्मिन् गृहे तत् भेषजागारं भेषजगृहमिष्यते इति सम्बन्धः । प्रशस्तायां दिशि पूर्वस्यामुत्तरस्यां वा, शुचौ देशे अस्मिन् भूमिप्रविभागीयाध्याये, निवसेषु व्यत्ययेन न पाठी दृश्यते । अस्माभिस्तु वृद्धक्रमरीत्यैव पाठी लिखित इति सर्वावयवसाध्येष्वित्यादि यावन्न वृद्धं पुराणञ्चेति पाठं केचिदाचार्या न पठन्ति ॥

be clean, dry, and not accessible to rats, white ants or dust. The drugs ought to be put in nets, or large pots, the mouth of which must be tied over with a piece of cloth, and suspended in a room. Fire, smoke and water must be kept at a distance.

The house in which medicines are stored, should be neither in too high nor too low a situation, and it should not be far distant from places in which medicines may be collected. Its front should face either the south or the north, with a convenient *viranda* before the door of the same side.

The necessary apparatus for mortars, scales, &c., must be kept in a place in the wall that has been consecrated for that purpose by religious ceremonies."

After describing the different classes, and members composing each class, of medicines, Suśruta continues: "The wise physician should collect and classify these medicines, and with them prepare external applications, infusions, oils, ghee, syrups, &c., as required for derangement of a particular humour. The medicines should be carefully preserved in all seasons, in rooms free from smoke, rain, wind and dust. The medicines should be used singly, or in combinations of several medicines of a class, or of an entire group, or of more than one group, according to the nature of the disease, and the extent of derangement of the humours."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> एभिर्लेपान् कषायांश्च तैलं सर्पीषिपानकान् ।  
प्रविभज्य यथान्यायं कुर्वीत सतिमान् भिषक् ॥  
धूमवर्षानिलक्लेदैः सर्वर्तुष्वनभिद्रुते ।  
याद्वयित्वा गृहे न्यस्येद्विधिनौषधसंग्रहं ॥  
समीक्ष्य दीपभेदांश्च गणान् भिन्नान् प्रयोजयेत् ।  
पृथग्विध्यान् समस्तान् वा गर्भं वा व्यस्तसंहतं ॥



## ANÆSTHETICS.

In the medical text books of the Hindus, there is no mention of a general anæsthetic, from which we can infer that it was unknown in those ancient days. There are, however, many indications to show that the earlier surgeons felt the necessity of such an agent to produce insensibility to pain. Both Caraka and Suśruta mention the use of wine to produce the desired effect. Caraka says: "After extraction of a dead fœtus before the full term of pregnancy, wine should be prescribed to her, for that will improve the condition of her uterus, make her happy and alleviate the pain of the operation."<sup>1</sup> Suśruta, however, distinctly lays down that "wine should be used before operation to produce insensibility to pain." He again remarks: "It is desirable that the patient should be fed before being operated on. Those who are addicted to drink and those who cannot bear pain, should be made to drink some strong beverage. The patient, who has been fed, does not faint, and he who is rendered intoxicated, does not feel the pain of the operation."<sup>2</sup>

The use of certain drugs to produce anæsthetic effects was well known to the ancient Greeks and Romans. Dioscorides

<sup>1</sup> व्यपगतगर्भशल्यान्तु स्त्रियसामगर्भी सुराशौध्वनरिष्टमधुमदिरासवानामन्यतममये सामर्थ्यतः पाययेत् गर्भकोष्ठविशुद्धार्थमर्त्तिविस्मरणाश्च प्रहर्षणार्थञ्च ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, IV, viii.

<sup>2</sup> प्राक्शस्त्रकर्मणश्चेष्टं भोजयेदातुरं भिषक् ।  
मद्यपं पाययेन्मद्यं तौक्ष्णं योऽवेदनासहः ॥  
न मूर्च्छत्यन्नसंयोगान्मत्तः शस्त्रं न बुध्यते ।  
तस्मादवश्यं भोक्तव्यं रोगिषूत्तेषु कर्मणि ॥  
प्राणी ह्याभ्यन्तरी नृणां वाह्यप्राणगुणान्वितः ।  
धारयत्यविरोधेन शरीरं पाञ्चभौतिकं ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I, xvii.

mentions Mandragora (Mandragora Atropa) to have been employed internally as a hypnotic and anæsthetic. Pliny (32-79 A.D.) in his Natural History mentions that this anæsthetic was also used by inhalation; and this fact is corroborated by Galen, Arætæus, Celsus and others. The Arabian physicians also used it. The Chinese surgeons still use some powder (Indian hemp probably) to throw their patients into profound sleep. In the 13th century Theodoric (died 1298) described the "spongio somnifera" the vapours raised from which were capable, when inhaled, of setting patients into an anæsthetic sleep, thus inducing insensibility to the agony and torture of a surgeon's knife. Baptista also mentions his "Pomum somniferum", to be made with mandragora, opium, &c. The Hindus also inhaled the fumes of burning Indian hemp as an anaesthetic at a period of great antiquity. As early as 927, A. D., they also knew drugs which they employed for the same purpose, for Paṇḍit Vallāla, in his Bhoja Prabandha, alludes to a cranial operation performed on the King Bhoja after he was rendered insensible by some drug called Sammohinī (producer of unconsciousness). Another drug is also mentioned, Sañjibani (restorer to life), by which he soon regained consciousness after the operation had been finished.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ततस्तावपि राजानं मीहचूर्णेन मीहयित्वा शिरःकपालमादाय तत्करोटिकापुटे स्थितं शफरकुलं गृहीत्वा कस्मिंश्चिद्वाजने निक्षिप्य सम्भानकरणया कपालं यथावदारचय्य सञ्जीवना च तं जीवयित्वा तस्मै तद्दर्शयताम्।

Bhoja Prabandha (Jibānanda's Edn.), P. 98.





## CHAPTER III.

### MATERIALS OF INSTRUMENTS.

#### IRON AND STEEL.

In the R̥gveda, *ayas*, (Latin *aes*), next to gold, is the metal most often referred to. *Ayas* often stands as a generic name to mean simply "metal," though in later works it signifies iron as a rule. The mention of dark and red *ayas* in the Atharvaveda indicates a distinction between iron and copper or bronze. The surgical instruments of the Hindus are recommended generally to be made of iron; but Suśruta allows other suitable material when iron of good quality is not available.<sup>1</sup> He says: "A wise surgeon should get the instruments made of pure iron and with sharp edges by an expert blacksmith who is skilful and experienced in his craft."<sup>2</sup> The use of impure iron as a material for surgical instruments, he deprecates as a defect and advises the surgeons not to rely on such instruments.

The Hindus were acquainted with steel and they knew how to turn out steel of fine quality from a pure iron ore. Nāgārjuna, the well known Buddhist chemist, wrote a scientific

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<sup>1</sup> तानि प्रायशी लौहानि भवन्ति तत्प्रतिरूपकाणि वा तदलाभे ।

Suśruta Samhitā. I. vii.

<sup>2</sup> शस्त्राख्येतानि मतिमान् शुद्धशैक्यायसानि तु ।

कारयेत् करणैः प्राप्तं कर्मारं कर्मकोविदं ॥

Ibid, I. viii.

treatise on steel and iron.<sup>1</sup> Śibodāsa in his commentary on Chakrapāṇi quotes Patañjali as an authority on the subject.<sup>2</sup> In the Dhanurveda, Viracintāmaṇi, Śāraṅgadharapaddhati and Lohārṇava, steel as a material of sword has been described and classified.

Dr. Mitra quotes some references<sup>3</sup> about the knowledge of iron possessed by the ancient Hindus from the R̥gveda. He finds that "swords (II. 156), spears (IV. 25), javelins (II. 292), lances (I. 774), (IV. II. 288) and hatchets (I. 120) are frequently mentioned; and these weapons were bright as "gold" or golden (IV. 19), "shining bright" (I. 175), "blazing" (IV. 93), "sharp" (IV. 113) and "made of iron" (I. 226); they are "whetted on a grind stone" (II. 36) to improve their keenness (I. 150), and "polished to enhance their brightness" (II. 326)....."According to Nearchus, King Porus gave 30 lbs of steel to Alexander as the most precious present he could offer."

Royle also remarks<sup>4</sup>: "Working in metals they have long been famous for: their steel acquired so great celebrity at an

<sup>1</sup> नागार्जुनी मुनीन्द्र शशास यज्ञोद्देशास्त्रमतिगहनम् ।

तस्यार्थस्य श्रुतये वयमेतद्विशदाचरैर्ब्रूमः ॥

Cakradatta, Rasāyanādhikāra.

<sup>2</sup> अर्चयित्वा विधानेन हेरम्बं गुरुभास्करौ ।

लीकपालान् यद्वाञ्छेव चेन्नपालान्यौषधम् ।

आदित्यदेवताश्चेष्टा धन्वन्तरौ-पतञ्जली

दद्यादलिञ्च सर्व्वेभ्यो नानाभक्षीपचारतः ॥

Quoted in Śibodas's commentary on Louhamāraṇa-

Vidhi in Cakradatta.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. R. L. Mitra's Indo-Aryans, Vol. 1, P. 301. See Wilson's R̥gveda.

<sup>4</sup> Royle's Antiquity of Hindoo Medicine, Pp. 46-7.



early period, as to have passed into a proverb among the Persians, where *fouladee hind* indicates steel of the best quality; and *juwabee hind*, an Indian answer, means a cut with a sword made of Indian steel."

### COPPER.

Pure copper was also used as a material of instruments; and vessels and instruments of copper are frequently mentioned in the medical books of the Hindus. A copper probe for applying antimony to the eye has been found in the excavations of Bijnor and another in the Bihat excavations. Cakradatta<sup>1</sup> advises us to use a copper probe for the application of *lekhana* collyrium; and *suśruta* mentions a copper needle in the operation for reclinacion of cataract.<sup>2</sup>

### TIN.

Tin was also used as a material of blunt instruments. *Suśruta* mentions plates of tin to surround a tumour and to protect the healthy parts, before the application of actual cautery.<sup>3</sup> Such plates are recommended to be made of tin, or lead, or copper, or iron.

### LEAD.

Tubes of lead were used for purpose of fumigation. Probes made of lead were used for application of collyrium. The use

<sup>1</sup> प्रशस्ता लिखने तासौ रोपने काललीहजा ।

Cakradatta, *Añjanadhikāra*.

<sup>2</sup> तामायसी शतकौम्भी शलाका स्यादनिन्दिता ।

*Suśruta Samhitā*, VI. xviii.

<sup>3</sup> अस्यावशिष्टे कृमिभिः कृते च लिखिततोऽग्निं विदधौत पश्चात् ।

यदल्पमूलं तपुतामसीस पट्टेः समावेध्य तदायसेज्वा ।

चाराग्रिशस्त्राण्य सक्कदविदध्यात् प्राणाणहिंसनं भिषग्प्रसक्तः ॥

*Suśruta Samhitā*, IV. xviii.

of lead plates to surround tumours before application of actual cautery has been noted above.

### BELL-METAL.

The use of bell-metal—an amalgam of zinc or tin and copper, 25 parts of the former with 75 parts of the latter,—as a material of probes for applying collyrium, is mentioned by Suśruta.<sup>1</sup>

### GOLD AND SILVER.

Gold was known to the Hindus from the remote antiquity; and among the metals, it is the one most frequently<sup>2</sup> mentioned in the R̥gveda. Silver was perhaps unknown during the earlier Vedic age, from its name being not mentioned in the R̥gveda. But no conclusion can safely be drawn from this argument<sup>3</sup>. We find, however, gold, silver, and other precious

<sup>1</sup> सौवर्णं राजतं शङ्खं ताम्रं वेदव्याकांसाजं  
आयसानि च धीज्यानि शलाकाश्च यथाक्रमं ॥

Suśruta Samhitā, VI. xviii.

<sup>2</sup> “निष्कं यौव”

R̥gveda. 5 Mandala. 19 Sūkta.

“निष्केन सुवर्णेन न अलङ्घ्यता यौवा” ।

Sāyana.

अश्वः न हेम्यावान् ।

Ibid. 4 Mandala. 2 Sūkta.

“सुवर्णं निर्मितं कक्ष्यावान् अश्वः” ।

Sāyana.

“A horse with golden caparisons”—Wilson.

<sup>3</sup> “एनौ रयि” ।

R̥gveda. 5 Mandala. 33 Sūkta.

एनवर्णा अतवर्णा रयिं धनं ।

Sāyana.

“Query, if silver money be intended”—Wilson.





stones mentioned as materials of instruments in the medical books. Gold and silver vessels and plates are often described in Sanskrit literature.<sup>1</sup> Suśruta mentions the use of drinking cups made of gold, silver and precious stones.<sup>2</sup>

Caraka, amongst other things necessary for a lying-in-room, mentions two needles of gold and silver.<sup>3</sup> To cut the navel-cord of the new-born child, he recommends a knife made of gold, or silver, or iron.<sup>4</sup> In the *Manusamhitā*<sup>5</sup> we find: "Before the section of the navel string, a ceremony is ordained on the birth of a male; he must be made while sacred texts are pronounced, to taste a little honey and clarified butter from a golden spoon."<sup>6</sup> A golden needle is mentioned by

- <sup>1</sup> सुवर्णरूप्यशङ्खाश्च युक्ति रत्न मयानि च ।  
कांस्याय स्नात्र रैत्यानि एपुसीस मयानि च ।  
निलंपानि विमुद्गन्ति केवलेन जलेन तु ॥

इति ब्राह्मे ।

- <sup>2</sup> सौवर्णे राजते ताम्हे कांसि मणिमये तथा  
पुष्पावतंसं भौमे वा सुगन्धि सलिलं पिबेत् ॥

*Suśruta Samhitā, I. xlv.*

- <sup>3</sup> \* \* \* तीक्ष्णौ सूचीपिप्पलकौ सौवर्ण राजतौ द्वे शस्त्राणि च तीक्ष्णायसनि ।

*Caraka Samhitā, IV. viii.*

- <sup>4</sup> नाभिवन्धनात् प्रभृति हित्वाष्टाङ्गुलमभिज्ञानं कृत्वा छेदनावकाशस्य द्वयोर्वन्तरयोः  
शनेष्टं हित्वा तीक्ष्णेन रौक्मराजतायसानां छेदनानामन्यतमेनीर्द्धारिणं छेदयेत् ॥

*Ibid.*

- <sup>5</sup> प्राङ् नाभिवर्धनात्पुंसो जातकर्म विधीयते ।  
मन्त्रवत्प्राशनं चास्य हिरण्यमधुसर्पिषाम् ॥

*Manusamhitā, II. 29.*

- <sup>6</sup> *Manusamhitā (ch. II. V. 29. Jones's trans.)*



Suśruta for pricking the bulb of Soma plant to extract its juice.<sup>1</sup> To cure trichiasis, Cakradatta mentions a needle cautery of gold.<sup>2</sup> For destroying the hair follicles, he advises us to pass the hot needle into them as soon as the eyelashes are removed by epilation. In the Yogaratnākara, is mentioned a cautery of gold, to burn the fistulous track round the anus.<sup>3</sup> Śārṅgadhara mentions silver or coral pots for keeping medicated snuffs,<sup>4</sup> and gold and silver tubs for immersing patients in medicated lotions.<sup>5</sup>

### HORN.

Horns of animals are mentioned as suction-apparatus. For

1 \* \* \* \* सोमकन्दं सुवर्णमूत्रादिविदार्य पयोग्ज्जीयात् सौवर्णे  
पात्रेऽञ्जलिमात्रं \* \* \* \*

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. xxix.

2 प्रवृद्धान्तर्मुखं रोमसहिष्णीरुद्धरच्छनेः ।  
सन्दंशेनोद्धरेद्दृष्ट्यां पक्षरोगाणि बुद्धिमान् ।  
रक्षत्रक्षि दहेत् पक्ष तप्तहेमशलाकया ।  
पक्षरोगे पुनर्नैव कदाचिद्रोगसम्भवः ॥

Cakradatta, Netraroga Cikitsā.

3 अपानमार्गपिटिकां दहेत् स्वर्णशलाकया ।  
अग्निप्रतप्तया पश्चात् कुर्यादग्निघ्नणक्रियाम् ॥

Yogaratanākara, p. 347.  
(Anandāsram Series).

4 कोणमच्छिन्नधारञ्च हेमतारादिशक्तिभिः ।  
युक्त्या वा पात्रे युक्त्या वा प्लातैर्व्या नस्यमाचरेत् ॥

Śārṅgadhara Saṁgraha, III. viii.

5 सौवर्णे राजतं वापि ताम्रमायसञ्चदारुजं ।  
कीटकं तत्र कुर्वीतीच्छ्राये षट्त्रिंशदङ्गुलं ॥

Ibid, III. ii.



this purpose, the horn of a cow is recommended.<sup>1</sup> A probe made of horn is advised to be used for applying collyrium. Suśruta mentions goat's horn to be used as a container of medicine.<sup>2</sup> He also recommends for this purpose vessels manufactured out of horn.<sup>3</sup> Similarly Caraka advises us to keep medicines in the lamb's horn.<sup>4</sup> Tubes of Vasti-yantra (clysters) are often described to be made of horn.<sup>5</sup>

## BONE AND IVORY.

Vāgbhaṭa II describes the aṅguli-trāṇaka or finger-guard to be made either of wood or ivory.<sup>6</sup>

1 “चूर्णे”, विष पूयाद्या चूषण निमित्तं शरीरेषु युज्यते यत्, “शृङ्ग” गवादि भवं  
यधिर' शृङ्ग' \* \* \* \*  
Vāgbhatārtha Kaumudī, I. xxv.

2 चूर्णाञ्जनं कारयित्वा भाजने मेषशृङ्गजे ॥  
संस्थाप्योभयतः कालमञ्जयेत् सततं बुधः ।  
Suśruta Saṁhitā, VI. xv.

वंशे वा माहिषे शृङ्गे स्थापयेत् शोधितं रसम् ।  
Rasendra Cintāmaṇi. IX.

3 एतच्चूर्णाञ्जनं श्रेष्ठं निहितं भाजने शुभे ।  
दन्तस्फटिकवैदूर्यं शङ्खशैलासनोद्भवे ।  
शतकुम्भेऽथ शङ्खं वा राजते वा सुसंस्कृते ॥  
Suśruta Saṁhitā, VI. xix.

4 सिद्धः शैलासने भाण्डे मेषशृङ्गे च संस्थितः ॥  
Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xxvi.

5 विमुद्रासं विखण्डाच्च धातुजां काष्ठजां तथा ।  
षडङ्गुलीस्यां गोपुच्छां नाडीं युञ्ज्यात् दिहस्तिकां ॥  
Sārṅgadhara Saṁgraha, HI. ii.

6 अङ्गुलि वाणकं दान्तं वार्चं वा चतुराङ्गुलं ।  
Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya. I. XXV.



## WOOD.

To apply vapour-bath, Śārṅgadhara mentions tubes made of wood or metal.<sup>1</sup> Wooden Tubes for injections were also used.<sup>2</sup>

## STONE.

Śārṅgadhara says: "The collyrium probes should be made either of stone or metal".<sup>3</sup> For compounding medicines, stone *khal* or mortar and pestles are mentioned. A big stone slab with a muller is recommended to be used for grinding dry or fresh vegetable medicines. In extracting the Soma juice, two slabs of stone are mentioned in the R̥gveda.<sup>4</sup>

## EXECUTION.

The execution of the instruments is said to have been all that can be desired. Suśruta says<sup>5</sup>: "They should be made just of the proper size with their ends rough or polished; they should be also strong, well-shaped and capable of a firm grasp." Again he continues: "When an instrument (has been selected) of

<sup>1</sup> नेत्रानि धातुजान्याहुर्नल वंशादिजान्यपि ॥

Śārṅgadhara Saṁgraha, III. ix.

<sup>2</sup> नेत्रं कार्यं सुवर्णादिधातुभिर्वृत्तवेणुभिः ।  
नलैर्दृष्ट्विविधाणाग्नेः मणिभिर्या विधीयते ॥

Ibid, III. v.

<sup>3</sup> मुखयोः कुण्डिता शृङ्गा शलाकाष्ठाङ्गुलीन्मिता ।  
अश्मजा धातुजा वा स्यात् कलायपरिमण्डला ॥

Ibid, III. xiii.

<sup>4</sup> R̥gveda. 10 Mandala, 76, 94 & 175 Sūktas.

<sup>5</sup> समाहितानि यन्त्राणि खरश्मसुखानि च ।  
सुदृढानि सुरुपाणि सुग्रहाणि च कारयेत् ॥



a fine make and with an edge keen enough to divide the hairs on the skin, and when it has been firmly grasped at the proper place, only then it should be used in any surgical operation"<sup>1</sup>. And again: "A wise surgeon will get his instruments made of good iron and with sharp edges, by a blacksmith who is skilful and experienced in his craft."<sup>2</sup> Vāgbhaṭa also gives the same directions.<sup>3</sup>

#### ORNAMENTATION.

In the absence of actual specimen, it is impossible to say whether there was any ornamentation on the surgical instruments of the Hindus. No ornamentation is described in the extant medical treatises. Only one instrument—Mucutī—is mentioned by Vāgbhaṭa II as being ornamented with a ring.<sup>4</sup>

#### EDGES OF SHARP INSTRUMENTS.

Suśruta says<sup>5</sup>: "The edges of instruments, used in incising

- <sup>1</sup> यदा मुनिशितं शस्त्रं रोमच्छेदि सुसंस्थितं ।  
मुग्धहीतं प्रमाणेन तदा कर्मसु योजयेत् ॥

Ibid, I. viii.

- <sup>2</sup> See foot-note 2, P. 61.

- <sup>3</sup> षड्विंशतिः सुकर्मारैर्घटितानि यथाविधि ।  
शस्त्राणि रोमवाहीनि बाहुल्येनाङ्गुलानि षट् ॥  
सुरूपाणि सुधाराणि सुग्रहाणि च कारयेत् ।  
अकरालानि सुभ्रातमुतीक्ष्णावार्त्ततेऽयसि ॥  
समाहितसुखायाणि नीलाभोजच्छवीनि च ।  
नामानुगतरूपाणि सदा सन्निहितानि च ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hr̥daya, I. xxv.

- <sup>4</sup> मुचुटौ सूक्ष्म दन्तर्जुर्मूले रुचकभूषणा ।

Ibid.

- <sup>5</sup> तच्चधारा भेदनानां मासूरी । लेखनानामर्द्धमासूरी ।  
व्यधनानां विस्त्रावणानाञ्च कैशिकी । केदनानामर्द्धकैशिकीति ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. viii.



(as of *Vṛddhipatra*, *Nakhaśastra*, &c.) should be of the fineness of a *masūra* (*Ervum Lens*); of those used in scarifying (as *Maṇḍalāgra* &c.) of a half a *masūra*; of those used in puncturing (as *Kuṭhārikā*) and evacuating (as needles, *kuśapatra*, &c.) of a hair; and those used in dividing (as *Vṛddhipatra*), of half a hair". As to the *Vaḍīśa* or hook and the *Dantaśaṅku* or tooth-scalers, the former should have a curved end and a fine point, while the latter should have an end shaped like the first leaf of barley."<sup>1</sup>

### THE TEMPERING OF SHARP INSTRUMENTS.

*Suśruta* remarks<sup>2</sup> that "the instruments are tempered in three ways;—by immersing the heated *śastra* in an alkaline solution, or water, or oil. Those tempered in an alkaline solution are used in dividing bones and in excising arrows and other foreign bodies. Those tempered in water are used in incising, dividing or clearing muscles; and those tempered in oil are used in puncturing veins and dividing nerves and tendons."

As the methods of tempering the *śastras* are the same as those recommended for the arms of war, we quote from *Vṛddha Śārṅgadharma* (the elder), two methods of tempering arrow-heads and swords. He says<sup>3</sup>: "I shall describe the ways of tempering arrow-heads, by smearing them with a paste of

<sup>1</sup> वड़िशी दन्तशङ्खानताये तीक्ष्णकण्टकप्रथमं यवपत्रमुले ।

*Suśruta Saṁhitā*, I. viii.

<sup>2</sup> तेषां पायना त्रिविधा चारीदकतैलेषु तत्र चारपायितं शरशलासिच्छेदनेषु ।  
उदकपायितम् मांसच्छेदनभेदनपाटनेषु तैलपायितं सिराव्यधनस्त्रायुच्छेदनेषु ।

*Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> फलस्य पायनं बह्व्ये वनौषधिविलेपनेः ।

येन दुर्भेद्यवन्मोणि भेदयेत् तरुपर्णवत् ॥

*Vṛddha Śārṅgadharma*,



vegetable drugs, which would thus acquire the power of piercing a coat-of-mail as easily as the leaf of a tree."

## I.

"Make a paste of Pippali (Piper Longum), rock-salt and Kuṣṭha (Saussurea Lappa) with cow's urine. These are to be well mixed until the paste becomes cold and yellow. The arrow-heads and other sharp cutting instruments are to be well smeared with that paste and then heated to redness. Then they are to be removed from the furnace and allowed to cool down to a state short of redness and dipped in oil. By this means, the iron acquires special power as a cutting instrument<sup>1</sup>".

## II.

"Make a paste of the five kinds of salts,<sup>2</sup> mustard and honey. Let the instrument-maker smear it on the śastras which are then to be heated in a furnace. When the colours resembling those of a peacock's feather are displayed on the śastra, the burning is known to be adequate. The instrument is then dipped in water<sup>3</sup>".

<sup>1</sup> पिप्पली सैन्धवं कुष्ठं गोमूत्रेण तु पेययेत् ।

अतिशीत मनाविद्धं पीतं नष्टं तथौषधम् ॥

अग्नेन लिपयेच्छस्त्रं लिप्तं चाग्नौ प्रतापयेत् ।

ततो निर्वापितं तैले लौहं तत्र विशिष्यते ॥

Vṛddhya Śārṅgadhara.

<sup>2</sup> सौवर्चलं सैन्धवञ्च विड्मौद्गिदमेव च ।

सामुद्रेन सहैतानि पञ्चसुर्लवणानि च ॥

Vaidyaka.

<sup>3</sup> पञ्चभिर्लवणैः पिष्टं मधुसिक्तः ससर्षपैः ।

एभिः प्रलेपयेच्छस्त्रं लिप्तं चाग्नौ प्रतापयेत् ॥

शिखिगीवानुवर्णाभं तप्तपीतं तथौषधं ।

ततस्तु विमलं तीर्थं पाययेच्छस्त्रमुत्तमम् ॥

Vṛddhya Śārṅgadhara.



## III.

The sage Uṣanās or Śukrācāryya thus describes<sup>1</sup> the tempering of swords in the Vṛhat Saṁhitā (Kern's trans. Ch. L.) :—

23. The fluid to imbrue a sword with, according to the precepts of Uṣanās, is: blood, if one wishes for a splendid fortune; ghee, if one is desirous to have a virtuous son; water, if one is longing for inexhaustible wealth.

24. An approved mixture to imbrue the sword with, in case of one desirous to attain his object by wicked means, is: milk from a mare, a camel and an elephant. A mixture of fish bile, deer-milk, horse-milk, and goat-milk, blended with toddy, will make the sword fit to cut an elephant's trunk.

25. A sword first rubbed with oil, and then imbrued with an unguent compounded of the milky juice of the Calotropis, goat's horn, ink, dung from doves and mice, and afterwards whetted, is fit for piercing stone.

- <sup>1</sup> वङ्गवीङ्गकरिणदुग्धपानं  
यदिपानेन समीहतेऽर्थसिद्धिः ।  
भक्षपिण्डसृगाश्च वस्तदुग्धैः  
करिहस्तच्छिदये सतालगर्भैः ॥  
आर्कं पथी हुङ्गु विषाणमसीसमेतं  
पारवतास्तु शक्तता च युतं प्रलीपः ।  
शस्त्रस्य तैलमयितस्य ततोऽस्य पानं  
पश्चाच्छितस्य न शिलासु भवेद्विघातः ॥  
चारे कदल्या मयितेन युक्ते  
दिनीधिते पायितमायसं यत् ।  
सम्यक् शितं चाश्मनि नैति भङ्गं  
न चान्यलीहेष्वपि तस्य कौण्ड्यम् ॥



26. An instrument imbrued with a stale mixture of potash of plantains with butter milk, and properly whetted, will not get crooked on a stone, nor blunted on other iron instruments.

### GOOD AND BAD QUALITIES OF SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Suśruta says<sup>1</sup>: "The good points in an instrument are the following : it should have a well-made handle, affording a firm grasp ; it should be made of iron of good quality ; it should have a fine edge, a pleasant shape and a well-finished point ; and it should not be dentated (except the saw)." He gives preference to the Śāstras which are of good make and with a fine edge—so fine as to divide the hairs on the skin and whose handles can easily be grasped by the surgeon's hand.

On the other hand, he points out eight defects<sup>2</sup> of sharp instruments : they must not be bent, or blunt, or broken, or jagged, or too thick, or too thin, or too long, or too short. Instruments free from these defects should be used. The Karapatra or saw is the only exception, for being used for sawing bones, it requires a jagged or dentated edge. Vāgbhaṭa also mentions these defects.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> तानि सुग्रहाणि सुलोहाणि सुधारानि सुरूपाणि सुसमाहितमुखाग्रस्थकरालानि चेति शस्त्रसम्पत् ।  
Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. viii.

<sup>2</sup> तत्र वक्रं कुण्डं खण्डं खरधारमतिस्थूलमत्यल्पमतिदीर्घमतिदृक्खमिष्यटी शस्त्रदोषाः । अतो विपरीतगुणमाददीतान्यत्र करपत्रात्तद्वि खरधारमस्थिच्छेदनार्थं ।  
Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> कुण्ड-खण्ड-तनु-स्थूल-दृक्ख-दीर्घत्व-वक्रताः ।  
शस्त्राणां खरधारत्वमटी दोषाः प्रकीर्तिताः ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, I. xxvi.

Suśruta enumerates twelve defects<sup>1</sup> of blunt instruments, viz., it may be too thick, or made of impure metal, or too long, or too short, or incapable of being grasped, or capable of being grasped (unevenly) partially, or bent, or made of too soft material, or of elevated ends, or it may have bent, loose, elevated, and weak pins, or be of weak ends, or of thin sides. These faults refer principally to the *Swastika yantras* or the cruciform instruments.

### THE USES OF INSTRUMENTS.

Twenty four different kinds of operations<sup>2</sup> are said to be performed by the blunt instruments (Suśruta), viz.:—

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. Nirghātana   | ... Extraction by moving to and fro. <i>e. g.</i> śalyanirghātani.  |
| 2. Pūrāṇa ...   | ... Filling the bladder or eyes with oil.   |
| 3. Bandhana ... | ... Bandaging and binding by rope.  |
| 4. Vyūhana ...  | ... 1. Raising up and incising a part for removing a thorn or 2. bringing together the lips of the wound. |
| 5. Vartana ...  | ... Contracting or curling up.  |

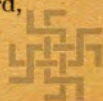
<sup>1</sup> तत्रातिस्थूलमसारमतिदीर्घमतिदृक्स्वमग्राहिविषमग्राहिवक्रं शिथिलमत्युन्नतं मृदुकीलं मृदुमुखं मृदुपाशमिति द्वादश यन्त्रदीपाः ।

Suśruta Samhitā, I. vii.

<sup>2</sup> यन्त्रकर्मानितु निर्घातनपूरणवन्धनव्यूहनवर्तनचालनविवर्तनविवरणपीडनमार्ग-विशीघनविकर्षणाहरणाघनीघ्नमनविनमनभञ्जनीमथनाचूषणैषणदारणजूकरणप्रचालनप्रघमन-प्रमार्जनानि चतुर्विंशतिः ।



- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 6. Cālana ...       | ... 1. transferring, i.e., removing<br>from one part to another; 2.<br>moving a foreign body.                  |
| 7. Vivartana        | ... Turning round.   |
| 8. Vivaraṇa         | ... Exposing or opening out any<br>part.   |
| 9. Piḍana ...       | ... Pressing as by finger to let<br>out pus from an abscess.   |
| 10. Mārga Viśodhana | ... Clearing the canals such as the<br>urethra, rectum &c.   |
| 11. Vikarṣaṇa       | ... 1. Extraction by pulling; or 2.<br>loosening a foreign body<br>fixed in muscles &c.                        |
| 12. Āharaṇa ...     | ... Pulling out.   |
| 13. Āñcana ...      | ... Pulling up.  |
| 14. Unnamana        | ... Elevating or setting upright as<br>the depressed cranial bones<br>or ears.                                 |
| 15. Vinamana        | ... Depression as of the elevated<br>ends of the fractured bone.   |
| 16. Bhañjana        | ... 1. Rubbing the head, ears &c.;<br>2. contusing a part all round<br>before it is surgically<br>operated on. |
| 17. Unmathana       | ... Probing or stirring the track<br>formed by an impacted<br>foreign body.                                    |
| 18. Ācuṣaṇa         | ... Suction as of poisoned blood<br>and milk by horns, or gourd,<br>or mouth,                                  |



- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 19. Eṣaṇa ...  | ... Exploring as by an earth-worm shaped probe, the direction of a sinus or the existence of a foreign body in the wound. |
| 20. Dāraṇa ... | ... Splitting or dividing as the head, ears &c.   |
| 21. Rjukaraṇa  | ... Straightening anything which is bent.   |
| 22. Prakṣāḷana | ... Washing as a wound with water.  |
| 23. Pradhamana | ... Blowing as powders into the nose through tubes.   |
| 24. Pramārjana | ... Rubbing out as foreign bodies from the eyes &c.   |

Vāgbhaṭa recognises only fifteen different kinds<sup>1</sup> of operations performed by the blunt instruments: Nirghātana (moving to and fro), Unmathana (probing), Pūraṇa (filling up), Mārga Śuddhi (clearing passages), Saṁvyūhana (raising up and extracting a thorn by incision), Āharaṇa (pulling out), Bandhana (bandaging), Piḍana (pressing), Ācūṣaṇa (suction), Unnamana (elevation), Nāmana (depression), Cāla (movement), Bhaṅga (breaking), Vyāvartana (turning round); and Rjukaraṇa (straightening).

<sup>1</sup> निर्घातनीन्मथन पूरण मार्गशुद्धि  
संव्यूहनाहरण वन्धन पीडनानि ।  
आचूषणोन्नमन नामन चाल भङ्ग  
व्यावर्तनर्जुकरणानि च यन्त्रकर्म ॥



The śāstras or cutting instruments, on the other hand, are said to perform eight kinds of surgical operations (Suśruta).<sup>1</sup>

1. Chedana ... Excision or removal of a part of the body by operation as of piles.

Instruments:—Vṛddhipatra, nakhaśastra, mudrikā, utpalapatra, and arddhadhāra.

2. Bhedana ... Incision of a part, as of an abscess.

Instruments:—The same as above.

3. Lekhana ... Scarification or dissection of a skin-flap; or scraping, as of Rohini *i.e.*, surgical diseases of the throat.

Instruments:—Maṇḍalāgra and karapatra.

4. Vedana or Vyādhana ... Puncturing as of veins to bleed patients by instruments having fine points.

Instruments:—Kuṭhārikā, vṛhimukha, āṛā, vetaspatra, and sūcī.

5. Eṣaṇa ... Probing, as of sinus and fistula by a probe.

Instruments:—Eṣaṇī.

6. Āharaṇa. ... Extraction, as of stone by the spoon or hook.

Instruments:—Vaḍiśa, and danta-śaṅku.

<sup>1</sup> तच्च शास्त्रकर्म्याऽष्टविधं । तद्यथा । क्लेदं भेदं लेखं वेध्यमेध्यमाहार्यं विस्त्रायं सौव्यमिति ।



7. Viśrāvāṇa ... To let out pus as from a deep-seated abscess.

Instruments :—Sūcī, kuśapatra, ātīmukha, śarārīmukha, antarmukha, trikurccaka, and eṣaṇī.

8. Sīvana ... ... Stitching, as of the lips of a wound by needles.

Instruments :—The different kinds of sūcī or needles.

Caraka mentions, however, six kinds<sup>1</sup> of operations :—

1. Pātana ... Incision, as in operation for sinus, abscess, intestinal injury, and deeply impacted foreign bodies.
2. Vyādhana ... Tapping or piercing, as in operations for ascites, suppurating tumour, ovarion tumour, boils &c.

<sup>1</sup> पाटनं व्यधनञ्चैव क्लेदनं लेपनं तथा ।  
 प्रोच्छन्नं सीवनञ्चैव षड्विधं शस्त्रकर्म्म तत् ॥  
 नाडीव्रणाः पक्वशीयास्तथा चतुर्गुदीदरम् ।  
 अन्तःशल्याश्च ये देशाः पाद्यास्ते तद्विधाश्च ये ॥  
 दन्तीदराणि संपक्वा गुल्माः ये ये च रक्तजाः ।  
 व्यधाः शोणितरीगाश्च वीर्यपिण्डिकादयः ॥  
 उद्वृत्तान् स्थूलपर्यन्तानुत्सन्नान् कठिनान् व्रणान् ।  
 अश्रूः प्रभृत्यधीमांसं क्लेदनेनोपपादयेत् ॥  
 किलासानि सुकुष्ठानि लिखेल्लेख्यानि बुद्धिमान् ॥  
 वातासृग्यन्यपिण्डिकाः सकौढा रक्तमण्डलाः ।  
 कुष्ठान्यभिहितञ्चाङ्गं शीघ्रांश्च प्रच्छेदयिष्यक् ॥  
 सौम्यं कुक्षुदराद्यन्तु गम्भीरं यद्विपाटितं ।  
 इति षड्विधमुद्दिष्टं शस्त्रकर्म्म मनीषिभिः ॥





3. Chedana ... ... Excision, as in the operation for tumours, raised and thickened *vraṇo* or corns, and piles.
4. Lekhana ... ... Scraping, as in operation for some varieties of skin diseases.
5. Pracchana ... ... Scarifying, as in the operations for glands, boils, leprous nodules, inflammatory swellings, &c.
6. Sībana ... ... Sewing, as in the operation of laparotomy for deep seated diseases in the abdomen.

Vāgbhaṭa describes thirteen kinds<sup>1</sup> of operations performed by the sharp instruments :—

1. Utpātana ... Raising up by incision, as by the Nakhaśastra.
2. Pātana ... Incision as by the Vṛddhipatra.
3. Sīvana ... Stitching as by the Sūci.
4. Eṣaṇa ... Probing as by the Eṣaṇi.
5. Lekhana ... Scraping as by the Maṇḍalāgra.
6. Pracchana ... Scarification as by the Maṇḍalāgra.
7. Kuṭṭana ... Pricking as by the Sūci in tattooing.
8. Chedana ... Excision as by the Vṛddhipatra.

<sup>1</sup> उत्पाद्य पाद्य सीव्य-लेख्य-प्रच्छन्न कुट्टनम् ।

हेद्यं मेद्यं व्यधी मथी यही दाहय तत्क्रियाः ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hrdaya, I. xxvi.

- |              |     |                                 |
|--------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| 9. Bhedana   | ... | Piercing as by the Sharp Eṣaṇī. |
| 10. Vyadhana | ... | Tapping as by the Vetasapatra.  |
| 11. Manthana | ... | Churning as by the Khaja.       |
| 12. Grahana  | ... | Fixing as by the Sandamśa.      |
| 13. Dahana   | ... | Burning as by the rods.         |

## WHETSTONE.

In the R̥gveda we find the use of stones mentioned for whetting the edges of the arms of war.<sup>1</sup> The Hindu surgeons used a stone slab for sharpening the śastras or edged instruments.<sup>2</sup> It was of the colour of māṣa (Phaseolus Roxb.). The whetstones used by the Greeks and Romans were either the marble ointment slabs, or made of clay slate or sandy schistaceous shale.

## INSTRUMENT CASES.

To preserve the edges of the cutting instruments, a case made of the wood of śalmālī (Bombax Malabaricum) was used (Suśruta).<sup>3</sup> Such cases were also manufactured of canvas, or wool, or silk, or leather. These cases—twelve *aṅgulī* (i.e., fingers' breadth) long and nine *aṅgulī* broad—were well sewn and

<sup>1</sup> See R̥gveda, Mandala. 2 Sūkta. 39 Verse 7.

„ 9 „ 90 „ 1.

„ 9 „ 112 „ 2.

„ 10 „ 53 „ 9.

„ 19 „ 101 „ 2.

<sup>2</sup> तेषां निशानार्थं श्लक्ष्णशिला माषवर्णा ।

Suśruta Samhitā, I. viii.

<sup>3</sup> धारसंस्थापनार्थं शाल्मली फलकमिति ।





consisted of compartments, lined with wool and separated by partitions for each instrument. They could be folded, closed with a rod and firmly tied by a knot.<sup>1</sup> The barbers of India still use similar cases for their instruments.

That the razor used to be kept in a case, we know from a passage in the Vṛhadāranyaka (800 to 500 B. C.) where the author says "It (the Atman) is here all-pervading down to the tips of the nail. One does not see it any more than a razor hidden in its case or fire in its receptacle".<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> स्यान्नवाङ्गुलि विस्तारः सुघनी द्वादशाङ्गुलः ।

चौम पट्टीर्णं कौषेय दुकूलं सट्ट चर्मजः ॥

विन्यस्त पाशः सुस्यूतः सान्तराणि शस्त्रकः ।

शलाका पिहितास्य च शस्त्रकोषः सुसञ्चयः ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, I. xxvi.

अथ शस्त्राणां सुरक्षनार्थं शस्त्रकोष माह स्यादित्यादि । नवाङ्गुलिविस्तारः नवाङ्गुल परिमानविस्तारविशिष्टः शस्त्रकोषः स्यात् । शस्त्रस्य कोषः शस्त्रकोषः । कोष चाप् इति लोके । यथा असिकोष इत्यादि । तथा सट्ट, घनी, निविडः सुघनः तथा द्वादशाङ्गुलः दैर्घ्येण द्वादशाङ्गुल परिमानः, तथा चौमादिजः । तथा विन्यस्तः यथा क्रमेण कृतः पाशो यस्य स विन्यस्तपाशः । तथा सुट्ट, स्यूतः कृत सेवनः, सुस्यूतः तथा सान्तराणि सव्यवधानानि, ऊर्णास्थानि मेधादिलोममध्येस्थितानि, शस्त्रानि यस्मिन् स सान्तराणां शस्त्रकः । तथा शलाकायाः पिहितं स्थागतं आस्थं मुखं यस्य स शलाकापिहितास्य तथा सुट्ट सञ्चयी, नापित भाण्डिकवद्राशीकरणं यस्य स सुसञ्चयः । चौमं अतसीसूत्रभववस्त्रं केनैव स्थातः । दुकूलशब्दः पट्टादिभिः स्त्रिभिः सम्बध्यते । तेन पट्टदुकूलं पाट् इति स्थातेन सूत्रेण निर्मितं वस्त्रं ऊर्णा, मेधादिलोम तद्गवं वस्त्रं और्णं दुकूलवनात् इत्याख्य वस्त्रादि । कौषेयदुकूलं कोषकार-कौटभव सूत्रेण रेशम् इति स्थातेन निर्मितं वस्त्रं ।

Vāgbhaṭārtha Kaumudī.

<sup>2</sup> Vṛhadāranyaka, I. iv.

Macdonell's Sanskrit Literature, p. 22.



To prove that portable cases for medicaments and instruments were in use in ancient India, we quote *in toto* from the Mohāvāgga some references to them.<sup>1</sup>

### BOXES FOR OINTMENTS, OINTMENT POTS, AND PORTABLE CASES.

Now at that time, the Bhikkhus used to put pulverised ointments into pots and saucers. They became sprinkled over with herb-powder and dust.

They told this thing to the Blessed One.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a box for ointment".

Now at that time the Khabbaggiya Bhikkhus used to carry about various kinds of boxes for ointments—gold ones and silver ones. People were annoyed, murmured and became angry, saying, "Like those who still live in the world."

They told this thing to the Blessed One.

"Various kinds of boxes for ointments, gold ones, and silver ones, are not, O Bhikkhus, to be used. Whosoever does so, is guilty of a dukkata offence. I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of such boxes made of bone, or ivory, or horn, or of the nala reed, or of bambu, or of wood, or of lac, or of the shells of fruit, or of bronze, or of the centre of the chank-shell (Sankhu-navi)."

2. Now at that time the boxes of ointment had no lid. (The ointment) was sprinkled over with herb-powder and dust.

They told this thing to the Blessed One.

<sup>1</sup> Mohāvāgga vl. 12. (Sacred Books of the East).





"I allow you, O Bhikkhus, the use of a lid."

The lid used to fall off.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, to fasten the lid with thread and tie it on to the box."

The boxes used to fall.

"I allow you, O Bhikkhus, to sew the boxes on with thread".

3. Now at that time the Bhikkhus used to rub ointment on with their fingers, and the eyes were hurt.

They told this thing to the Blessed One.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a stick or holder to put the ointment on with".

Now at that time the *Khabbaggiya* Bhikkhus used to keep various kinds of ointment-sticks—gold ones, and silver ones. People were annoyed, murmured, and became angry, saying, "Like those who still live in the world".

They told this thing to the Blessed One.

"Various kinds of ointment-holders, O Bhikkhus, are not to be used. Whosoever does so, is guilty of a dukkata offence. I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of ointment-holders of bone, or of ivory, or of horn, or of the *naḷa* reed, or of bambu, or of wood, or of lac, or of fruit, or of bronze, or of the chank-shell."

4. Now at that time the ointment-sticks used to fall on the ground and become rough.

They told this thing to the Blessed One.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a case for the ointment-sticks".



Now at that time the Bhikkhus used to carry the ointment-boxes and ointment-sticks about in their hands.

They told this thing to the Blessed One.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a bag to put the ointment-box in."

They had no shoulder strap.

"I allow you, O Bhikkhus, the use of a shoulder strap (by which to carry the ointment-box), or of a thread (by which to sew or tie it on)."

### 13.

1. Now at that time the venerable Pilindavakkha had head-ache.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a little oil on the head".

(The disease) became no better.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the practice of taking up (medicine) through the nose". (See commentary on the Dhammapada, pp. 83.)

The nose ran.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a nose-spoon" (Natthukarani).

Now at that time the *Khabbaggiya* Bhikkhus had various kinds of nose-spoons—made of gold, and of silver. People were annoyed, murmured, and became angry, saying, "Like those who still live in the world."

They told this thing to the Blessed One,





"Various kinds of nose-spoons, O Bhikkhus, are not to be used. Whosoever does so, is guilty of dukkata offence. I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of such nose-spoons made of bone, (&c., as in chap. 12, 1, down to :) the chank-shell.

2. The nose took up the medicament in unequal proportions.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a double nose-spoon (yamaka-natthu-karaṇi)."

They used to spread the drugs on a wick before they sniffed up the aroma: and their throats got burnt.

'I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a pipe to conduct the aroma.'

Now at that time the K/abbaggiya Bhikkhus had various kinds of pipes (&c., as in the last clauses of § 1, down to the end).

Now at that time the aroma-pipes came open: and worms got in.

'I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a lid to the pipes.'

Now at that time the Bhikkhus carried the pipes about in their hands.

'I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a bag to carry the aroma-pipes in'.

The aroma-pipes rubbed against one another.

'I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a double bag.'

They had no shoulder strap.

'I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of a shoulder strap (by which to carry the double bag), or of a thread (by which to sew it on).

## OPERATION TABLE.

In the examination for piles, Suśruta directs the patient to lie down on his bed or on a board<sup>1</sup>; and in describing the operation, Vāgbhaṭa II mentions a board to be used as an operation-table.<sup>2</sup> A similar bed, as long as the distance from the top of the head to the knees of the patient, is also mentioned in the description of the lithotomy operation.<sup>3</sup> The use of a board as a fracture bed is also advised.

For passing the tubes of the *vasti-yantra* or clysters into the urethra in the male, the patient is recommended to sit on a stool as high as his knees (*jānumātrāsana*).<sup>4</sup>

In phlebotomy, the patient is advised to sit on a stool, an aratni high<sup>5</sup> (i.e. the distance between the tip of the olecranon process of the ulna to the tip of the little finger).

<sup>1</sup> भुक्तवन्तमुपवेश्य सन्धृते शुची देशे साधारणे व्यम्भे काले समे फलके शय्यायां वा प्रत्यादित्य-  
गुदमन्यस्योत्सङ्गे निषण्णपूर्वकायमुत्तानं \* \* \* \*

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. vi.

<sup>2</sup> शुचिं कृतस्वस्थ्यनं भुक्तविष्णुतमव्ययम् ।

शयने फलके वान्यनरोत्सङ्गे व्यापश्रितम् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, VI. viii.

<sup>3</sup> ततो वलवन्तमविक्रवमाजानुसमे फलके प्रागुपवेश्य पुरुषश्च तस्योत्सङ्गे निषण्णपूर्वकाय-  
मुत्तानमुन्नतकटीकं ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. vii.

<sup>4</sup> स्नातस्य भूक्तभक्तस्य रसेन पयसापि वा ।

स्रष्टविष्णुचवेगस्य पीठे जानुसमे स्रद्धौ ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VIII. ix.

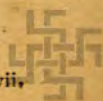
<sup>5</sup> तत्र व्यधसिरं पुरुषं प्रत्यादित्यमुखमरविमाचीकृते उपवेश्यासने ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, III. viii.

अग्नितापातपखिन्नो जानूच्चासनसंस्थितः ।

स्रदुपशक्तकेशान्तो जानुस्थापितकर्परः ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, I. xxvii.





## KAPĀTA-ŚAYANA OR FRACTURE-BED.

In the treatment of fractures of the lower extremities, mention is made of the *kapāta-śayana* (lit. door-bed) or fracture-bed, consisting of a plank of wood resembling the panel of a door.<sup>1</sup> The patient is to lie down on it. The board has five rods fixed to it, to which the fractured limb is tied to prevent any movement: two on each side of the joint and one on the plantar surface of the foot. Dallapa explains it thus<sup>2</sup>: In fractures of the bones of the leg, two rods are fixed on each side of the ankle and one supports the foot; in fracture of the thigh bone, two rods are fixed on each side of the knee or hip, and one under the foot. In a double fracture of the thigh bone and bones of the

<sup>1</sup> अथ जङ्घोरुभग्नानां कपाटशयनं हितं ।

कौलका वन्धनार्थं पञ्च कार्या विज्जनाता ।

यथा न चलनं तस्य भग्नस्य क्रियते तथा ।

सन्धेरुभयतो द्वौ द्वौ तले चैकश्च कौलकः ।

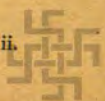
श्रोण्यां वा पृष्ठवंशे वा वक्षस्यक्षकयोस्तथा ।

भग्नसन्धिविमोक्षेषु विधिमेनं समाचरेत् ॥

Suśruta Saṃhitā, IV. iii.

<sup>2</sup> जङ्घोरुभङ्गेषु पञ्चात् कर्मविशेषं निर्दिशन्नाह । अथ जङ्घेत्यादि । जङ्घोरुभग्न-  
चिकित्सितमाह । भग्नानाम् काण्डभग्नानाम् । द्विविधानामपीत्यपरे । कपाटशयनमवश्यं  
कार्यम् । चलनम् कपाट शयनेनैव सह देशान्तरनयनार्थम् । आधारभूतशयनचालनार्थ-  
मित्यन्ये । आधेयभूतशरीरावयवचलन परिहारार्थं कौलाः । कौलानां पञ्चसंख्यात्वम् ।  
जङ्घोर्वर्द्धयोरिकतरस्य भग्नमवेक्ष्य तत्र जङ्घाभग्नं तु गुल्फसन्धेरुभयतो द्वौ एकश्च तले एवं पञ्च ।  
ऊरुभग्नं जानुसन्धेरुभयतो द्वौ द्वौ । वङ्गासन्धेरुभयतस्तले चैक इत्यत्रापि पञ्च । उभयभङ्गा-  
पेक्षया तु सप्तभिरिव कौलैर्यन्त्रणम् । तथाह उभयतो वहिर्द्वौ गुल्फयोर्द्वौ च जानुनोः द्वौ च  
वङ्गयोः तले चैक एवं सप्त । अथ जङ्घोर्वर्द्धयोः पार्श्वयोर्वर्द्धौ द्वौ तले चैकश्च कौलक इति केचित्  
पठन्ति । तन्निवन्धकारैर्न पठितम् । तन्मात्रं पठनीयम् । गयदासश्चात्र पाठान्तरं किमपि  
पठति । तच्चाभावात् लिखितम् ।

Dallapa's Commentary, IV. iii.



leg, seven rods are required,—two on the outer side of the ankle, knee, and groin, respectively, and one under the foot. The fracture-bed is recommended to be similarly availed of in fractures and dislocations of the loin, the spinal column, the chest, and the clavicle. And this mode of treatment, he adds, may advantageously be used for the other kinds of fractures and dislocations. Vāgbhaṭa II also mentions it in the treatment of fractures<sup>1</sup>.

Hippocrates used a similar fracture-bed for the proper treatment of fractures and dislocations. It was called Scammum Hippocratic or bench of Hippocrates. As the figures of of this bench would elucidate the structure of the *kapāta-śayana*, we reproduce here three plates with their explanations given at the end of Vol. II, Genuine Works of Hippocrates (Syed. Soc. Ed.), and two plates—Scammum Hippocratis and Plinthium Nileii from the Collection De chirurgiens Grecs.

Fig. 1. The Scammum Hippocratis or Bench of Hippocrates, as represented by Andreas a Cruce (*Officina chirrugica venetiis*, 1596).

Fig. 2. The same as represented by M. Littré.

A. A board, 6 cubits long, 2 broad and 12 inches thick ; not 13 as incorrectly stated by M. Littré.

B. The feet of the Axles, which are short.

<sup>1</sup> कटौ जङ्घोरुभग्नानां कपाटशयनं हितम् ।  
यन्त्रणार्थं तथा कीलाः पञ्च कार्य्या विवन्धनाः ॥  
जङ्घोर्वोः पार्श्वयोर्द्वौ द्वौ तल एकश्च कीलकः ।  
श्रीण्यां वा पृष्ठवंशे वा वक्रस्याचकयोस्तथा ॥





CC. Axle-trees.

DD. Grooves 3 inches deep, 3 broad, seperated from one another by 4 inches.

E. A small post *or* pillar, fastened in the middle of the machine in a quadrangular hole.

F. Pillars a foot long.

G. A cross-beam laid on the pillars FF, which can be placed at different heights by means of holes in the pillars.

Fig. 3. Representation of the mode of reducing dislocation of the thigh outwards, as given by M. Littré (*Œuv. d'Hipp.*, tom. iv, p. 305).

*A mistake in the figure given by M. Littré is here corrected.*

A. A lever applied to the nates of the luxated side, and acting from without inwards, in order to bring the head of the bone into its cavity.

B. Another lever, held by an assistant, put into one of the grooves of the machine, and intended to act against lever A.

C. Grove in which the end of the lever A takes its point of support.

D. The luxated member.

EE. Extension and counter-extension.

Fig. 4. Banc d'Hippocrate, d'après Rufus, servant à réduire différentes luxations. (Collection De Chirurgiens Grecs, Bibliothèque Nationale).

Fig. 5. Plinthium, ou cadre de Nileus, d'après Héliodore. (Ibid).



## CHAPTER IV.

### THE NUMBER OF SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS.

The armamentarium of the Hindu surgeons consisted of a good number of surgical instruments. They are described to be of two kinds, the *yantras* and the *śastras*, i.e., the blunt and the sharp instruments. Suśruta enumerates no less than one hundred and one varieties of the blunt instruments, and twenty different kinds of sharp instruments. Hārīta, on the other hand, enumerates twelve blunt instruments, twelve sharp instruments, and four prabandhas, as necessary for the operation of extraction of arrows and other foreign bodies.<sup>1</sup> Vāgbhaṭa II mentions one hundred and fifteen kinds of blunt and twenty-six kinds of sharp instruments. Pālakapya (Treatment of Elephants) mentions ten kinds of *śastras* or sharp instruments though he describes the uses of other instruments required for the surgical treatment of diseases.

### INSTRUMENTS AND THEIR CLASSIFICATION (SUŚRUTA.)

Of the one hundred and one varieties of the blunt instruments, the surgeon's hand is rightly considered as the principal instrument, for without its help, no instrument can properly be used, and every surgical operation is under its control.<sup>2</sup> They are recommended to be used for the extraction

<sup>1</sup> दादशेव तु यन्त्राणि शस्त्राणि दादशेव तु ।

चत्वारि च प्रवन्धानां शल्योद्धारि विनिर्दिशेत् ॥

<sup>2</sup> यन्त्रशतमेकीतरमत्र हस्तमेव प्रधानतमं यन्त्राणामवगच्छ । किं कारणं । यस्माद्धस्तादृते यन्त्राणामप्रवृत्तिरेव तदधीनत्वाद्यन्त्रकर्माणां ।

तत्र मनःशरीरावाधकराणि शल्यानि तेषामाहरणीयावी यन्त्राणि ।





of *śalya* or foreign bodies, *e.g.*, a dart, an arrow, a javelin, a spear, a peg, a pin, a bamboo rod, a stake &c. which cause pain to the body and mind.

A. Suśruta subdivides the blunt instruments into six classes,<sup>1</sup> viz.:

I. Svastika or cruciform instruments	...	24 kinds.
II. Sandaṁśa or pincher-like	...	2 „
III. Tāla or picklock-like	...	2 „
IV. Nāḍī or tubular or hollow	...	20 „
V. Śalākā or rod or pricker-like	...	28 „
VI. Upayantra or accessory	...	25 „

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These instruments are advised to be made generally of iron, or of other suitable materials, when iron is not available. Their ends often resemble the faces of some ferocious beasts, or of deers, or birds. Hence the instruments should be so constructed as to have the likeness of their faces, following at the same time the directions of scientific treatises, or the instructions of teachers, or in imitation of other instruments, or in adaptation to the exigencies of the time. They should be of reasonable

<sup>1</sup> तानि षट्प्रकाराणि । तद्यथा । स्वस्तिकयन्त्राणि । सन्दंशयन्त्राणि । तालयन्त्राणि । नाडीयन्त्राणि । शलाकायन्त्राणि । उपयन्त्राणि चेति । तत्र चतुर्विंशति स्वस्तिकयन्त्राणि । द्वे सन्दंशयन्त्रे । द्वे एव तालयन्त्रे । दिंशतिर्नाड्यः । अष्टविंशतिः शलाकाः । पञ्चविंशति रूपयन्त्राणि ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. vii.

Hessler translates the terms as follows : *Uncinata instrumenta*, *forcipum instrumenta*, *palmiformia instrumenta*, *hamata instrumenta*, *secundaria instrumenta*.

Hessler's Suśruta, I. vii.

size, with their ends rough or smooth as required. They should be of strong make, good shape and capable of a firm grasp.<sup>1</sup>

### I. The Svastika or Cruciform instruments are—

1. Simhamukha. 2. Vyāghramukha. 3. Vṛkamukha.
4. Tarakṣumukha. 5. Rkṣamukha. 6. Dvīpimukha.
7. Mārjāramukha. 8. Śṛgālamukha. 9. Airvvarukamukha.
10. Kākamukha. 11. Kaṅkamukha. 12. Kuraramukha.
13. Cāsamukha. 14. Bhāsamukha. 15. Śaśaghātīmukha.
16. Ulūkamukha. 17. Cillimukha. 18. Gṛdhramukha.
19. Śyenamukha. 20. Krauñcamukha. 21. Bhṛṅgarājamukha.
22. Añjalikarṇamukha. 23. Avabhañjanamukhā, and
24. Nandimukhamukha.

### II. The Sandaṁśa or pincher-like instruments are—

1. Forceps with arms.
2. Forceps without arms.

<sup>1</sup> तानि प्रायशी लौहानि भवन्ति तत्प्रतिरूपकाणि वा तदलाभे । तत्र नानाप्रकाराणां व्यालानां मृगपक्षिणां मुखेमुखानि यन्त्राणां प्रायशः सदृशानि तस्मात्तत्सारूप्यादागमादुप-  
देशादन्ययन्त्रदर्शनादुक्तितश्च कारयेत् ।

समाहितानि यन्त्राणि खरश्लक्ष्णमुखानि च ।

सदृशानि सारूपाणि मृगहाणि च कारयेत् ॥

Suśruta Samhita, I. vii.

अनेकरूपकार्याणि यन्त्राणि विविधान्यतः ।

विकल्प्य कल्पयेद् बुद्ध्या यथास्थूलान् वक्ष्यते ॥

\* \* \* \* \*

अलौहान्यनुशस्त्राणि तान्येवञ्च विकल्पयेत् ।

अपरुष्यापि यन्त्रादीन्यपयोगञ्च यौगिकम् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, I. xxv.





## III. The Tāla or picklock-like instruments are—

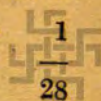
1. Ekatāla.
2. Dwitāla.

## IV. The Nāḍī or tubular instruments are—

For fistula-in-ano ... (1) with one slit; (2) with 2 slits ...	2
For piles ... (1) with one slit; (2) with 2 slits ...	2
For wounds ... ..	1
For clysters (Rectal) ... (Some authors describe 3 only) ...	4
For clysters (vaginal and urethral)... (male and female) ...	3
For Hydrocele ... ..	1
For Ascites ... ..	1
For fumigation and inhalation ...	3
For Urethral Stricture ... ..	1
For Rectal „ ... ..	1
For Cupping—gourd ... ..	1
	<hr/> 20

## V. The Śalākā or rod-shaped instruments are—

Gaṇḍūpadamukha or earth-worm like ...	2
Śarapuṅkhamukha or arrow-stem like ...	2
Sarpafaṇamukha or snake's hood like ...	2
Vaḍiśamukha or fish-hook like ...	2
Masūradalamukha or masūra pulse like ...	2
Promārjana or swabs ... ..	6
Khallamukha or spoons ... ..	3
Jāmvavavadana or jambul seed like ...	3
Aṅkuśavadana or goad like ... ..	3
Kolāsthidalamukha or plum seed like ...	1
Mukulāgra or bud shaped ... ..	1
Mālatīpuṣpavṛntāgra or like the stem of mālatī flower	1



## VI. The Upayantra or accessory instruments are—

1. Rajju—thread. 2. Venikā—twine. 3. Paṭṭa—bandages.
4. Carma—leather. 5. Valkala—bark of trees. 6. Latā—creepers.
7. Vastra—cloth. 8. Aṣṭhīlāśma—stone or pebble.
9. Mudgara—hammer. 10. Pāṇipādātala—palm of the hand and sole of the foot.
11. Aṅguli—finger. 12. Jihvā—tongue.
13. Danta—tooth. 14. Nakha—nail. 15. Mukha—mouth.
16. Vāla—hair. 17. Aśvakaṭaka—the ring of a horse's bridle.
18. Śākhā—branch of a tree. 19. Sṭhīvana—spittle.
20. Pravāhaṇa—fluxing the patient. 21. Harṣa—objects exciting happiness.
22. Ayāṣkānta—a loadstone. 23. Kṣāra—caustic.
24. Agni—fire. 25. Bheṣaja—medicines.

## B. The sharp instruments or śastras are—

1. Maṇḍalāgra or round headed knife.
2. Karapatra or saw (*lit.* like the human hand).
3. Vṛddhipatra (*lit.* like the leaf of vṛddhi—an unknown medicinal plant)—a razor.
4. Nakha-śastra or nail-parer.
5. Mudrikā or finger-knife (like the last phalanx of the index finger).
6. Utpalapatra, a knife, *i.e.*, resembling the petal of a blue lotus. (*Nymphaea stellata*, Willd).
7. Arddhadhāra or a single-edged knife.
8. Sūcī—needles.
9. Kuśapatra—a knife shaped like the kuśa grass (*Eragostis Cynosuroides*).





10. Ātīmukha—a knife shaped like the beak of the Ātī bird (*Turdus Ginginianus*).
11. Śararī-mukha—a pair of scissors like the beaks of Śararī bird.
12. Antarmukha (*lit.* having internal sharp edge)—a kind of scissors.
13. Trikurecaka—an instrument consisting of three needles.
14. Kuṭhārikā—a small axe shaped instrument.
15. Vrihimukha—a trocar shaped like a grain of rice.
16. Arā or awl.
17. Vēṭasa-patraka—an instrument shaped like the leaf of a rattan (*Calamus Rotang*).
18. Vaḍiśa—an instrument shaped like the fish-hook.
19. Dantaśaṅku or tooth-pick.
20. Eṣani or sharp probe-like instrument.

According to Hārīta<sup>1</sup> the twelve blunt instruments are—

1. Godhāmukha or iguana-faced. 2. Vajramukha—grdhra-mukha? 3. Tribaktra or three faced. 4. Sandaṁśa or pincher.

<sup>1</sup> गोधामुखं वज्रमुखं त्रिवक्त्रं नाम सन्दंशचक्राकृतिकङ्कपादम् ।

अथानकं शङ्खककुलञ्च श्रीवत्ससौवत्सिक पञ्चवक्त्रं ।

द्वादशैतानि यन्त्राणि कथितानि भिषग्वरैः ।

अथ शस्त्राणि प्रोक्तानि नामानि च पृथक् पृथक् ।

अर्धचन्द्रं व्रीहिमुखम् कङ्कपत्रं कुठारिका ।

करवीरकपत्रञ्च शलाककरपत्रकम् ।

वडिशं गृध्रपादञ्च श्ली च सूचिमुद्गरम् ।

शस्त्राण्येतानि प्रोक्तानि शल्योद्धारि पृथक् पृथक् ॥

5. Cakrākṛti or circular shaped. 6. Anaka? 7. Kaṅkapāda?  
 8. Śṛṅga or horn. 9. Kundala? 10. Śrībatsa? 11. Saubatsika?  
 12. Pañcabaktram, *i.e.*, five faced—simhamukham?

The twelve sharp instruments of Hārīta are—

1. Arddhacandra or half-moon shaped. 2. Vṛhimukha.  
 3. Kaṅkapatra. 4. Kuṭhārikā. 5. Karavīrakapatraka. 6. Śalākā  
 or sharp probe. 7. Karapatraka or saw. 8. Vaḍīśa or sharp  
 hook. 9. Gṛdhrapāda? 10. Śūlī 11. Sūcī or needle. 12. Mud-  
 gara or hammer?

Vāgbhaṭa II classifies the instruments in the following way:-

A. Blunt instruments—

- I. Svastika, as heron, lion, bear, crow, deer .  
 forceps &c. ... 24

- II. Sandamśa: It consists of two iron  
 blades soldered at one end, the other  
 ends being free ... 2  
 (a) for extraction of eyelashes &c. ... 1  
 (b) mucuṭī ... 1

- III. Tāla ... 2  
 (a) Ekātāla ... 1  
 (b) Dwītāla ... 1

- IV. Nāḍī or tubular: ... 23  
 (a) Kaṇṭhaśalyāvalokinī or throat speculum  
 having three and five holes ... 2  
 (b) Śalyanirghātani ... 1  
 (c) For piles, different sizes for male and  
 female ... 6

For inspection: 2 holes—rectal speculum 2

For medication: 1 hole ... 2

For applying pressure: entire—śāmi ... 2





(d) For fistula-in-ano: with one and two holes	2
(e) For nasal polypus &c. ... ..	1
(f) Aṅguli-trāṇaka or finger-guard ...	1
(g) Joni-vraṇekṣaṇa or vaginal speculum ...	1
(h) Vrāṇo vasti or wound syringe ...	1
(i) For dakodara or Paracentesis abdominis	1
(j) Vastiyantra or clysters: rectal, vaginal and urethral ... ..	3
(k) For fumigation... ..	1
(l) Cupping instruments: Alābu, Ghaṭīyantra and Horns ... ..	3
	—
	23
V. Śalākā or rod-like instruments ...	34
(a) Gaṇḍūpadamukha or earth-worm shaped	2
(b) Masūradalabaktra ... ..	2
(c) Śaṅku ... ..	9
Faṇībaktra or snake's hood ...	2
Śarapuṅkamukha ... ..	2
Vaḍīṣa or blunt hook ... ..	2
Garvaśaṅku or delivery hook ...	1
Aśmarī or lithotomy hook ...	1
Śarapuṅkamukha or tooth extractor ...	1
(d) For wiping out discharges ...	6
For rectum ... ..	2
For nose ... ..	2
For ears (karṇaśodhana) ... ..	2
(e) For application of actual and potential cauteries ... ..	11
Jāmboṣṭha, three for each ...	6

Arddhendū or half-moon shaped, for hernia	1
Kolāsthidala for nasal polypus	... 1
Nail-shaped	... 3
(f) For cleansing	... 3
Rectum	... 1
Vagina	... 1
Urethra	... 1
(g) Collyrium probe	... 1
	<hr/> 34

VI. Anuyantra or accessory instruments are nineteen in number. To the list of Suśruta he adds the following<sup>1</sup> :—

Goat's gut, silk, time, suppuration, and fear.

B. The sharp instruments of Vāgbhaṭa are twenty-six in number.<sup>2</sup>

1. Mandalāgra. 2. Vṛddhipatra. 3. Utpalapatra. 4. Adhyarddhadhāra. 5. Sarpāsya. 6. Eṣaṇī:—Gaṇḍūpadamukhā and Sūcī-mukhā. 7. Vetasa. 8. Śārārī. 9. Trikurecaka. 10. Kuśapatra. 11. Ātīvadana. 12. Antarmukha and Arddhacandrāna. 13. Vrihibaktra. 14. Kuṭhārī. 15. Kuravakasalā. 16. Aṅguliśastra. 17. Vaḍīśa. 18. Karapatra. 19. Kartarī. 20. Nakhaśastra. 21. Dantalekhana. 22. Sūcī. 23. Kurcca. 24. Khaja. 25. Ārā. 26. Kārṇavedhanī.

<sup>1</sup> अनुयन्त्राण्यस्क्रान्त रज्जु वस्त्राऽश्म मुद्राः ।  
पद्मान् जिह्वा वालाश्च शाखा नख सुख द्विजाः ॥  
कालः पाकः करः पादोभयं हर्षश्च तत् क्रियाः ।  
उपायवित् प्रविभजेदालोच्य निपुणं धिया ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya. I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> षड्विंशतिः सुकर्मा रैर्घटितानि यथाविधि ।  
शस्त्राणि रोमवाहीनि वाङ्मूलेनाङ्गुलानि षट् ॥  
सुरूपाणि सुधाराणि सुग्रहाणि च कारयेत् ॥  
अकरलानि सुध्राव सुतीक्ष्णावार्चतेऽयसि ॥



Bhāvamiśra mentions the following blunt and sharp instruments: Eṣanī, Jāmvoustha Śālā,<sup>1</sup> Sūci<sup>2</sup> and knives generally in making incisions which should be shaped like Kharjjūrapatrika, (like the leaf of Kharjjūra tree, Phoenix Sylvestris, Roxb.) Arddhacandra, Candravarga, Sūcimukha and Abānmukha.<sup>3</sup>

Pālakapya<sup>4</sup> mentions ten kinds of śāstras :—1. Vṛddhipatra. 2. Kuśapatra. 3. Mandalāgra. 4. Vṛhimukha. 5. Kuṭhāri. 6. Vatsadanta. 7. Utpalapatra. 8. Śālākā. 9. Sūci or needles. 10. Rampaka. Besides these he refers to Vaḍiśa.

Of the blunt instruments he mentions:—Jāmvoubouṣṭha—(four in number, for application of actual cauteries), Simhadamṣṭrā, Godhāmukha, Kaṅkamukha, Kuliśamukha—(for extraction of foreign bodies), Eṣanī or probes (three), wound syringe, Vastīyantra, Śālākā or rods, yaṣṭhiyantra, Karkataka, Dyātūha, Makaraka (crocodile), Śārdḍūlamuṣṭhika (tiger's claws), Nandimukha (Turdus Ginginianus).

- <sup>1</sup> एषय्या गतिमन्विष्य चारसूवानुसारिनीम् ।  
सूचीं निदध्यादव्यन्ते प्रोन्नाम्याश्च विनिहरेत् ॥

Bhāva Prakāśa. II. iv., Nāḍi Vraṇādhikāra.

- <sup>2</sup> आगन्तुजे भिषग्नाडीं शस्त्रेणोत्कृत्य यवतः ।  
जाम्बीठीनाग्निवर्णेन तप्तया वा शलाकया ॥

Ibid. Bhagandarādhikāra.

- <sup>3</sup> गतिमन्विष्य शस्त्रेण छिन्द्यात् खर्जूरपत्रिकम् ।  
चन्द्रार्द्धं चन्द्रवर्गश्च सूचीमुखमवाङ्मुखम् ॥

Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> तत्र शस्त्राणि दशनामसंस्थानानि भवन्ति । तद्यथा वृद्धिपत्रम्, कुशपत्रम्, मण्डलायम्, त्रीहिमुखम्, कुठाराकृति, वत्सदन्तम्, उत्पलपत्रम्, शलाका, सूची, रम्पकयेति । फालजाम्बवतापिकादव्याकृतयथेति । एतान्याग्निकर्म्मविधाने चत्वारि चान्यानि शल्यङ्गरणानि यथायोगं सिंहद्रंष्ट्रं गोधामुखं कडुमुखं कुलिशमुखं चेति । तिस्र एषिण्यः ।

## CHAPTER V.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE BLUNT INSTRUMENTS.

Now we shall describe the instruments in detail. The Yantras or the blunt instruments will be considered first, and next the Śastras or the sharp instruments.

#### I. The Svastika yantra or Cruciform Instruments.

The word svastika is a technical term signifying one of the twenty-four signs of the Jinas; and it can be represented by two lines crossing each other, the arms of the cross being bent at their extremities towards the same direction. So these instruments may be described as cruciform. They have, as a rule, a length of eighteen aṅguli. Their ends should be shaped like the faces of the following ferocious beasts (1 to 8), deer (9), and birds (10 to 24), and the instruments are to be called after their names.<sup>1</sup> They are divided into two classes; the instruments of class I resemble the mouths of lion (siṃha) and tiger (vyāgra), while class II comprises the instruments which have the likeness of the faces of birds of prey. The fulcrums of these instruments which are at the middle, are of the size of a masūra (Ervum lens). The handles are either rounded off, or bent at an angle at their ends, like an elephant driver's goad—the object being to afford a good grasp of the instrument by the surgeon's hands. The svastika instruments are used for the extraction of

<sup>1</sup> तत्र स्वस्तिकयन्त्राणां दशशङ्कुप्रमाणानि सिंहव्याघ्रकतरलुक्चक्षुषीपिमाजार्शगालमृग-  
व्याकृककाककङ्कुररचासभासशशवात्यलूकचिक्षिष्येनगृध्रक्रौञ्चभृङ्गराजाञ्जलिकर्णावभञ्जननन्दि-  
मुखमुखानि मसूराकृतिभिः कौलेरुववद्धानि मूलेऽङ्गुश्वदावत्तवारङ्गाख्यायिविनटशूलोद्धार-  
णार्थमुपदिश्यन्ते ।



foreign bodies impacted in the bones.<sup>1</sup> If the foreign body is visible, extract it by the lion forceps or similar forceps of class I. If it is invisible, it should be extracted by the Heron forceps or similar forceps of class II. Of all the varieties of svastika instruments, the Heron forceps (kañka-mukha) is the best, for it can be easily introduced and turned in all directions, and also it grasps firmly and extracts a foreign body with ease and can be applied without any harm to all parts of the body.<sup>2</sup>

Class I:—

1. *Simhamukha svastika* or Lion-faced forceps:—this instrument is said to have its mouth shaped like that of a lion (*Felis leo*). It is the principle instrument of the class I. It is

- <sup>1</sup> तुल्यानि कङ्कसिंहचक्राकादिस्त्रगपक्षिणां ।  
मुखैर्मुखानि यन्त्राणां कुर्यात्तत् संज्ञकानि च ॥  
अष्टादशाङ्गुलयामान्यायसानि च भूरिशः ।  
मसूराकारपथ्यन्तेः कण्ठेवद्धानि कौलकैः ॥  
विद्यात् स्वस्तिका यन्त्राणि मूलोऽङ्गुशनतानि च ।  
ते दृढै रस्थिसंलग्नं शल्याहरणमिष्यते ॥

*Aṣṭāṅga Hrdaya. I. xxv.*

- <sup>2</sup> दृश्यं सिंहमुखाद्यैस्तु गूढं कङ्कमुखादिभिः ।  
निर्हरेत्तु शनैः शल्यं शास्त्रयुक्तिव्यपेक्षया ॥  
विवर्तते साध्ववगाहते च शल्यं निगृह्यीद्वरते च यस्मात् ।  
यन्त्रेष्वतः कङ्कमुखं प्रधानं स्थानेषु सर्वेष्वधिकारि चैव ॥

*Suśruta Saṁhitā I. vii.*

निवर्तते साध्ववगाहते च  
याद्व्यं गृह्यीद्वीद्वरते च यस्मात् ।  
यन्त्रेष्वतः कङ्कमुखं प्रधानं  
स्थानेषु सर्वेष्वधिकारि यच्च ॥

*Aṣṭāṅga Hrdaya. I. xxv.*

curious that in modern times, the European surgeons use a pair of forceps called the Lion forceps for holding bones firmly during operations. So the Makaramukha of Pālakapya is the Crocodile forceps.

2. Vyāghramukha or Tiger forceps: the mouth of this instrument is like that of a tiger (*Tigris regalis*).

3. Vṛkamukha or Wolf forceps (*Canis lupus*).

4. Tarakṣumukha or Hyena forceps (*Hyena striata*).

5. Ṛkṣamukha or Bear forceps (*Ursus Americanas*).

6. Dwīpimukha or Panther forceps (*Felis pardus*).

7. Mārjāramukha or Cat forceps (*Felis domestica*).

8. Śṛgālamukha or Jackal forceps (*Canis aureas*).

9. Airbbārūka or Deer forceps (*Cervus elephas*).

Class II:—The birds, in imitation of whose faces the instruments of this class are made, can be identified from the following description of their beaks:—

Birds: 1. Raptatories: they have curved beaks hooked at the extremity.

(a) Strigidæ...owls...strong hooked beaks bent down from base.

(b) Vulturidæ...vultures...long straight beaks bent down at tip.

(c) Accipetridæ...falcons, osprey and eagle...short, usually dentated beaks, hooked at the ends.

2. Pessaries...(a) Lanidæ...shrike...hooked and strongly serrated beak. (b) Cervidæ...crow and blue-jay...beaks strong, thick, somewhat curved anteriorly and slightly notched.

3. Grallatories...Heroidæ or Ardeidæ...herons and krauñca...they have long and powerful beaks with sharp hard



edges, somewhat curved at the point, rarely spoon-shaped, with long neck.

The instruments are—

10. Kākamukha or Crow forceps (*Corvus corone*).
11. Kaṅkamukha or Heron forceps (*Ardea cinerea*).
12. Kuraramukha or Osprey forceps (*Pandion haliaëtus*).
13. Cāsamukha or Blue-jay forceps (*Garrulous* or *Corvus cristatus*).
14. Bhāsamukha or Eagle forceps.
15. Śaśaghātīmukha or Hawk forceps (*Nanclerus furcatus*).
16. Ulūkamukha or Owl forceps (*Strix flammea*).
17. Cillimukha or Kite forceps (*Milivus ictimus*).
18. Śyenamukha or Vulture forceps (*Vulture cinereas*).
19. Grdhramukha or Falcon forceps (*Peregine falcon*).
20. Krauñcamukha (*Ardea jaculator*); or Curlew (*Numenius Arquatus*).
21. Bhr̥ṅgarājamukha or Fork-tailed or Butcher-bird forceps (*Lanius excubitor*).
22. Añjalikarṇamukha—birds not identified.
23. Avabhañjanamukha „ „ „
24. Nandimukhamukha (*Turdus Ginginianus*).

## II. The Sandamśa or Pincher-like Forceps.

The second class of instruments—the Sandamśa<sup>1</sup> or pincher-like forceps—comprises only two instruments: the forceps with and without handles. The first variety is likened

<sup>1</sup> सनियहोऽनियहश्च सन्दंशौ षोडशङ्गुली भवतस्त्वग्मांससिराक्तायुगतशल्बीद्वारणार्थं-  
मुपदिश्यन्ते ।

to forceps with arms, used by the barbers for depilating the nasal cavities, while the second variety is like the armless forceps used by the goldsmiths. The former consists of two arms joined crosswise by a pin fixed at about their middle points, and so really is a cruciform instrument but is classed here for its different use in surgery. The forceps without handles consists of two blades soldered at one end. Some commentators like to subdivide the pinchers into two classes according as their ends are rough or smooth. And so Hessler translates :<sup>1</sup> “*Duae forcipes denticulata et non denticulata*”.

The sandamśas are used for the purpose of extracting foreign substances from the soft structures of the human body, such as the skin, muscles, veins, nerves, and tendons<sup>2</sup>. Generally they have a length of sixteen aṅguli.

Vāgbhaṭa II mentions two other instruments as modifications of the type :—

(a) One variety has the length of six aṅguli. It is intended for the purpose of extracting minute foreign bodies such as thorn, hair &c. and of removing the superfluous eyelashes.<sup>3</sup>

Cakrapāṇi also advises us to use a sandamśa for epilation, which may be called the Epilation forceps.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Hessler's *Suśruta*. Caput vii. P. 14.

<sup>2</sup> कौलवद्व द्वियुक्तयो सन्दंशौ षोडशाङ्गुली ।  
लकसिरास्त्रायुपिशित लग्न शल्यपकर्षणे ॥ ५ ॥

*Aṣṭāṅga Hrdaya*, I. xxv.

अतिगुप्तञ्च शल्यञ्च सन्दंशेन समुद्धरेत् ।

*Hārīta Saṁhitā*, III. lvi.

<sup>3</sup> षडङ्गुलीऽन्वोहरणे सूक्ष्म शल्यो पपक्वणां ॥ ६ ॥

*Aṣṭāṅga Hrdaya*, I. xxv.

<sup>4</sup> See foot-note 2, p. 66.



Similarly in modern times, we remove superfluous eyelashes by the Epilation forceps. Mr. Berry writes<sup>1</sup>:—"When the trichiasis is only partial, a temporary improvement is obtained by epilation. In some cases where a few eyelashes only have been left altogether, the patient may procure for himself a pair of forceps, and have the eyelashes removed whenever they cause irritation." Surgical epilation was frequently necessary for trichiasis among the Romans and a similar forceps was in use there.<sup>2</sup>

In ancient times in India, the barbers used epilation forceps for pulling out grey hairs. In Makha-deva jātaka, we find the following conversations between the king and his barber<sup>3</sup>:—

"Barber. There is a grey hair to be seen on your head, O King."

King. Pull it out, then, friend, and put it in my hand.

So he tore it out with golden pinchers, and placed it in the hand of the King."

(b) The second variety is known as the Mucuṭī instrument.<sup>4</sup> It is a pair of straight forceps, having no curve like that of the sandamśa. It is serrated finely at the open ends. The soldered end has a ring attached to it as ornamentation. It is recommended to be used for removing painful sloughs and proud granulations from a deep-seated abscess. It is also to be used to

<sup>1</sup> Practical Ophthalmology, 1904. By G. A. Berry, M.B. P. 52.

<sup>2</sup> Paulus Aegineta. VI. xiii. (Syd. Soc. Ed.)

<sup>3</sup> Rhys David's Buddhistic jātaka stories, Vol. I, pp. 187.

<sup>4</sup> मुचुटी सूक्ष्म दन्तर्जुमूले रुचकभूषणा ।

गम्भीर व्रणमांसार्चो चाम्पणः शीषितस्य च ॥ ७ ॥



complete the operation for pterygium by removing the remnant, after it has been extirpated by the sharp instruments. Suśruta calls it Mucunḍī<sup>1</sup>, and uses it to hold the pterygium after it has been raised by vaḍīśa or hook. It must be then a smaller variety of mucuṭī.

A similar pair of forceps, Dr. Erichsen mentions, and says<sup>2</sup> that "for the purpose of extracting needles, thorns, splinters of wood and other foreign bodies of small size and pointed shape lying in narrow wounds, forceps with very fine but strong, well-serrated points will be found useful."

Suśruta mentions baṁsabidala<sup>3</sup> or bamboo forceps. It is made of a piece of bamboo rod, split longitudinally into two halves nearly to its whole extent. This is like the bamboo tongs used by the smokers in Bengal to raise glowing charcoal to the earthen bowl. It should be used to remove worms from the surface of the human body.

The sandaṁśa instrument may be compared with the modern dressing forceps and with the forceps still used by the goldsmiths, known as a sonnā. Those with arms have their counterpart in the sāḍāsī or a pair of pinchers, still used by the blacksmiths.

### III. Tāla Yantra or Picklock-like Instruments.

The third class of blunt instruments is called Tāla-

<sup>1</sup> अपाङ्गं प्रेक्षमाणस्य वङ्गिणेन समाहितः ।

मुचुण्डागृह्य मेधावी सूचीसूत्रेण वा पुनः ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, vi. xv.

<sup>2</sup> Erichsen's Science and Art of Surgery, Tenth Ed. vol. I. p. 342.

<sup>3</sup> ताननुलैलिनाभ्यक्तस्य वंशविदलेनापहरित् ।



yantra<sup>1</sup>. The word tāla “has been differently interpreted by the commentators. Bhānumatī gives the alternative reading (tālu i.e., palate) for tāla, so the instruments likely had their ends shaped like the palatine process of fish. Dallana,<sup>2</sup> however, maintains that tāla means picklock, the ordinary Indian key which resembles a hook. Two of these are joined at one end, the curved ends being kept free, facing one another. The instrument would then resemble the face of a bhetuli fish. Instruments with one tāla or hook resemble one lip of the fish, and those with two tālas represent its entire face. Both Cakrapāṇi and Dallana however prefer to mean by tāla, the scale of a fish.”

They have a length of twelve aṅguli, and are shaped like the jaws of a fish. They may be made either with a single blade (ekatāla) or with double blades (dvitāla) soldered at one end, the hooked ends being free. They are intended for the purpose of extracting foreign bodies from the ear, nose and other outer canals of the body. The ear scoop now used by the barbers of India for extracting wax from the ear is a tālayantra.

<sup>1</sup> तालयन्त्रे द्वादशाङ्गुलि मत्स्यतालवद्वेकतालद्वितालके कर्णनासानाडीशल्यानामा-  
हरणार्थं ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. vii.

दे द्वादशाङ्गुलि मत्स्यतालवद्वेक तालके ।

ताल यन्त्र स्मृते कर्णनाडी शल्यापहारिणी ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> अत्र ताल-शब्देन प्रदेश उच्यते । एतेन एकं तालं प्रदेशी यस्य तदेकतालं, दे ताले प्रदेशौ यस्य तत् द्वितालकम् ; एतेन मत्स्यस्य शल्कवत्प्रतनुमुखप्रदेशं एकतालं मत्स्यशल्कवत् प्रतनुमुखं द्विप्रदेशं द्वितालमित्युक्तम् । परिणाहस्तु कर्णादिप्रवेशी ज्ञेयः । अन्ये तु मत्स्यतालवद्वेकतालद्वितालके इति पठन्ति । व्याख्यानयन्ति च मत्स्यस्य भेटुनिमत्स्यः, तस्य लौहमयतालकाकारं मुखं भवति अतस्तन्मुखाङ्गाकारं यन्त्रमेकतालकं, सर्वमुखाकारं द्वितालकं, तालकोऽत्रअपवारकादिपाटसन्निवन्धनं लौहमयमुच्यते ।

Dallana's Commentary, I. vii.

For removing substances that have fallen into the meatus auditorius, Paul says:<sup>1</sup> "They must therefore be extracted by an earpick, a hook, or tweezers, or by using powerful shaking of the head, while the ear is placed upon some circular board." Albucasis recommends us to use a slender forceps, which resembles the modern dissecting forceps. He also commends for the purpose a hook slightly bent, which is also mentioned by Celsus.<sup>2</sup>

#### IV. The Nāḍī Yantra or Tubular Instruments.

The Nāḍī or tubular instruments are described to be of various kinds and to serve many purposes<sup>3</sup>. They are open either at one or both ends. These are used for the extraction of foreign substances from the natural outlets of the body. They are also recommended to be used as a diagnostic apparatus for inspection of diseases in the canals. They are the means of sucking out fluid discharges, as pus *etc.*, from cavities and they facilitate the performances of other operations. They vary in length and diameter in proportion to the different sizes of the outer canals of the body, or according to the varieties of purposes to be served by them.

<sup>1</sup> Paulus Ægineta, Vol. II. VI. xxiv. (Syd. Soc. Ed.)

<sup>2</sup> Celsus, VI.

<sup>3</sup> नाडी यन्त्राख्येनैकप्रकाराख्येनैक प्रयोजनान्येकतो मुखान्भयती मुखानि च तानि स्त्रीतो-  
गतश्लेष्मिद्वारणार्थं रोगदर्शनार्थमाचूषणार्थं क्रियासौकार्यार्थाञ्चेति तानि स्त्रीतद्वारपरिणाहानि  
ग्रथायोग परिणाहदीर्घाणि च ।

Suśruta Samhitā, I. vii.

नाडीयन्त्राणि शुषिराख्ये कानेक मुखानि तु ।

स्त्रीतोगतानां श्लेष्मानामभयानाञ्च दर्शने ।

क्रियाणां सुकरत्वाय कृश्यादाचूषणाय च ।

तद्विस्तार परिणाह देव्यं स्त्रीतोऽनुरोधतः ॥ २ ॥



The tubular instruments are used for fistula-in-ano, haemorrhoids, tumours, abscesses, injections into the rectum, vagina and urethra, hydrocele, ascites, inhalations, stricture of urethra and rectum and cupping as by gourd and horns.<sup>1</sup>

As examples of the tubular instruments, Vāgbhaṭa II. mentions:—

### 1. KANṬHASALYĀVALOKINĪ<sup>2</sup> OR THROAT SPECULUM.

To examine foreign substances such as a fish-bone in the throat, the instrument should have a length of ten aṅguli and a circumference of five aṅguli.

Suśruta describes the extraction of a foreign body, made of lac from the throat of a patient by the following device. A heated iron probe or sound should be introduced into the throat of a patient through a tube of copper and made to touch the bit of shellac. The foreign substance would begin to dissolve or soften and so will adhere to the probe. The rod is then to be cooled by sprinkling water through the tube and the foreign body then should be drawn out steadily with it.<sup>3</sup> But other kinds of foreign bodies are to be extracted from the throat by means of a rod-like instrument, one end of which is smeared with melted wax or shellac.

The use of some adhesive substance for extraction of foreign bodies accidentally introduced into the outer passages of the

<sup>1</sup> भगन्दराशोऽर्ध्वद्वन्द्ववस्तुत्तरवस्तिमूत्रवद्विदकोदरधूमनिरुद्धप्रकाशसन्निरुद्धगुदयन्त्राण्य-  
लावृक्षयन्त्राणि चोपरिष्टादित्यामः ।

Suśruta Samhitā, I. vii.

<sup>2</sup> दशङ्गुलार्द्धनाहान्तः कण्ठशल्यावलीकनी ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, I. xxv.

<sup>3</sup> जातुषे कण्ठासक्ते कण्ठे नाडीं प्रवेश्याग्निताञ्च शलाकां तथावगृह्य शीताभिरङ्गिः  
परिषिच्य स्थिरौभूतमुद्धरेत् । अजातुषं जतुमधूर्च्छितमिव शलाकया पूर्वकल्पेनेत्येके ।

human body was well known to the Greeks and Romans. Paul says:<sup>1</sup> "Stones and such like bodies we extract by wrapping wool round an earpick, and smearing it with turpentine-rosin, or some glutinous substance, and introducing it gently into the meatus auditorius."

## 2. PAÑCAMUKHA AND TRIMUKHA.

To take a good hold of a four-eared arrow, a speculum having five holes (PAÑCAMUKHA) should be had recourse to; and for a two-eared arrow, a speculum having three holes (TRIMUKHA) would be necessary. The central hole is for the arrow, while the side holes are meant for the ears of the arrow.<sup>2</sup>

Celsus<sup>3</sup> says that when a weapon buried in the flesh has barbs too strong to be broken with forceps, they may be shielded with split writing-reeds (Calamus scriptorium), and the weapon thus withdrawn.

Paul says: "Some apply a tube round about the barbs<sup>4</sup> so that when they draw out the weapon, the flesh may not be torn by the barbs."

In modern times a snare is used instead of a tube. Dr. Erichsen<sup>5</sup> writes: "The extraction of an arrow is usually attended with little difficulty. But if barbed, special precautions have to be taken. With the view of safely effecting its removal, the snares.....have been devised."

<sup>1</sup> Paulus Aegineta. Vol. II. VI. xxiv. (Syd. Soc. Ed.)

<sup>2</sup> नाडीपञ्चमुखच्छिद्रा चतुर्कर्णस्य संयद्दे ।

वारङ्गस्य द्विकर्णस्य त्रिच्छिद्रा तत् प्रमाणतः ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hrdaya, I. xxv.

<sup>3</sup> Celsus. vii. v.

<sup>4</sup> The Works of Paulus Aegineta. vi, lxxxvii.

<sup>5</sup> The Science and Art of Surgery. Vol. I. pp. 343.





### 3. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR INSPECTION OF ARROWS.

Again for the inspection of the arrows, various kinds of tubular instruments would be necessary, which will vary according to the shape, length, and circumference of the arrows and their ears.<sup>1</sup>

### 4. ŚĀLYANIRGHĀTANĪ.

The top of this tubular instrument is shaped like the disc of a lotus and is closed. The other end is open and leads to a hollow extending to a fourth part of the tube. It has a length of twelve aṅguli. It is useful for removing an arrow fixed deeply into the body, in different directions and thus helping its easy extraction.<sup>2</sup> For this purpose Suśruta directs us to use a stone hammer.

The Śālyanirghātani had its counterpart in the female part of the Impellent, mentioned by Paul, for forcing an arrowhead forwards through a part so as to extract it at the side opposite to that of its entrance. It would thus be seen that the function of the Impellent was similar to that of the Śālyanirghātani; the former moved it forwards, while the latter moved the śālya side to side, the object of both being to extract the foreign substance. The Impellent would seem to have been a plain rod of metal pointed at one end (the male part) and hollowed at the other (the female part); the pointed end used to be introduced into the socket of an arrow when it possessed one, and the hollow

<sup>1</sup> वारङ्ग कर्णसंस्थान नाह देर्घ्यानुरीधतः ।

नाडीरेवं विधाद्यान्मा द्रष्टुं शल्याणि कारयेत् ॥ १० ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hrdaya, I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> पद्मकर्णिकया मूर्द्धि सदृशी हादशाङ्गुला ।

चतुर्थं शुषिरानाडी शल्यनिर्घातनी सता ॥

end was meant to fit over the tail in case where the arrow was tanged.<sup>1</sup> The Greeks and Romans recognised the necessity of an arrow being moved about until loosened, if it remained fixed in the bone; and Celsus<sup>2</sup> directs us to strike it with some iron instrument until it be shaken from the place where it is lodged.

### 5. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR PILES.

According to Suśruta<sup>3</sup> these should be made either of iron, or ivory, or horn or wood. They are hollow instruments tapering at the end which should be shaped like the teat of a cow. For males, the length is four aṅguli, while the circumference is five aṅguli. In the case of females, however, the tube should be made wider, the circumference being six aṅguli, and longer, the length being equal to the space covered by the palm of the hand. There are two slits on the sides—one for inspection of diseases and the other to allow application of caustic and cautery to the diseased part. The slit measures three aṅguli in length and the pulp of the thumb in breadth. At a distance of a half aṅguli from the margin of the slit, is raised a circular projection, also a half aṅguli high.

<sup>1</sup> Paulus Ægineta, VI. lxxxviii.

<sup>2</sup> Celsus, VII. 5.

<sup>3</sup> तत्र यन्त्रं लौहं दान्तं शार्ङ्गं वाचं वा गोस्तनाकारं चतुराङ्गुलायतं पञ्चाङ्गुलपरिणाहं पुंसां षडङ्गुलपरिणाहं नारीणां तलायतं तद्विच्छिद्रं दर्शनार्थमेकं छिद्रमेकं छिद्रन्तु कर्मणि । एकद्वारे हि शस्त्रचाराग्नीनामतिक्रमो न भवति । छिद्रप्रमाणन्तु त्र्याङ्गुलायतमङ्गुलीदर-परिणाहं यदङ्गुलमवशिष्टं तस्याङ्गुलमधस्तादङ्गुलीच्छित्तोपरिष्ठत्तकर्णिकमेषयन्त्राकृति-समासः ।



Vāgbhaṭa<sup>1</sup> describes two different instruments, one for inspection and the other for medication. They both have the same length and circumference. The former has two slits on the side, while the latter has only one slit, three aṅguli long and the pulp of the thumb in width. The annular projection is turned upwards: the object being the prevention of sudden introduction of the instrument too far inwards.

A similar instrument without any slit on the side is called Śamī<sup>2</sup>. It is advised to be used for exerting pressure over the piles by its introduction into the rectum (Vāgbhaṭa.)

Rectal speculum is mentioned by Hippocrates in his treatise on fistula<sup>3</sup> and by Paul in the treatment of piles.<sup>4</sup> It is called Calopter in contradistinction to the vaginal speculum which is called Diopter. The rectal speculum in the Naples museum is a two bladed instrument working with a hinge in the middle. In modern times, both the varieties of the speculum, tubular and valved, are in use.

For inspection and medication of piles, a tubular speculum is recommended to be used by the veterinary surgeons. In the

<sup>1</sup> अशसां गोस्तनाकारं यन्त्रकं चतुरङ्गुलम् ।  
नाहे पञ्चाङ्गुलम् पुंसां प्रमदानां षडङ्गुलम् ।  
द्विच्छिद्रं दर्शने व्याधरेकच्छिद्रन्तु कर्मणि ।  
मध्येऽस्य चाङ्गुलच्छिद्रमङ्गुलीदरं विस्तृतम् ।  
अङ्गुलीच्छितीवृत्तं कर्णिकञ्च तद्रूढतः ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> शय्याख्यां तादृग्च्छिद्रं यन्त्रमशः प्रपीडनं ॥ १३ ॥

Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> The Genuine Works of Hippocrates. (Syd. Soc. Ed.) Vol. II. P. 817.

<sup>4</sup> Paulus Ægineta, VI. lxxix.

Aśvavaidyaka, Jayadatta sūri<sup>1</sup> describes the instrument thus: "The surgeon should know the instrument to have the length of six aṅguli. On the two sides, the wise surgeon should make two slits, three aṅguli long and a half aṅguli broad. Through an instrument with two slits, the piles of the horses should be examined. Through a speculum with one slit, the surgical operations, such as incisions &c., should be performed, after having tied the horse and making him lie down".

#### 6. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR FISTULA-IN-ANO.

These are similar to the instruments used for the inspection and medication of piles, the only difference being the omission of the circular rings in their construction, for otherwise, the projection may rub over the sore if the speculum be introduced deeply.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> यन्त्रं षडङ्गुलं विद्वान् छिद्रं पञ्चाङ्गुलं भिषक् ।

अधोऽर्द्धाङ्गुलाविस्तीर्णं दैर्घ्येणाप्यङ्गुलत्रयम् ॥

उभयोः पार्श्वयोस्तस्य कुर्याच्छिद्रद्वयं बुधः ।

अर्शसेन तु वाहस्य द्विच्छिद्रेण विलोकयेत् ॥

एकच्छिद्रेण वै कर्म कुर्याच्छेदादि पूर्व्वकम् ।

पातितस्य सुवहस्य तुरङ्गस्य विचक्षणः ॥

Aśvavaidyaka (Bibliotheca Indica). Liii. vs. 4, 5 and 6.

<sup>2</sup> क्षिद्रादूर्ध्वं हरेदीडमर्शयन्त्रस्य यन्त्रवित् ।

ततो भगन्दरे दद्यादेतदूर्ध्वेन्दु सन्निभं ॥

Suśruta Samhitā, IV. viii.

सर्व्वथाऽपनयिदीटं क्षिद्रादूर्ध्वं भगन्दरे ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, I. xxv.



## 7. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR THE NOSE.

*Nasal-Speculum.*

Similar tubular instrument without ring is to be used for examination of nasal diseases as tumours and polypus. It is however shorter and thinner than the rectal speculum. Vāgbhaṭa says: "It is two aṅguli long and admits the index finger in its lumen. The tube has a single slit on the side."<sup>1</sup>

He describes nasal tubes for introducing medicated powders into the nose as snuff. <sup>2</sup> After partially filling the tube with powders, one should blow through the empty end, the other end being put well inside the nasal cavity. Suśruta also uses a tube to blow powder into the nose.<sup>3</sup> Caraka<sup>4</sup> mentions nasal insufflation to cure diseases. Śārṅgadhara<sup>5</sup> and Cakradatta<sup>6</sup> describe the nasal tube for insufflation to be six aṅguli long and open at both ends.

- <sup>1</sup> घ्राणार्धदार्शसामेकच्छिद्रा नाड्यङ्गुलद्वया ।  
प्रदेशिनी परिणाहा स्याद्गन्धर यन्त्रवत् ॥ १५ ॥

*Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, I. xxv.*

- <sup>2</sup> भ्रानं विरेचनशूर्णो युञ्ज्यात् तं मुखवायुना ।  
षडङ्गुलद्विमुखया नाड्या भेषजगर्भया ।

*Ibid. I. xx.*

- <sup>3</sup> नासास्त्रावे घ्राणतशूर्णमुक्तं नाड्यादेयं योऽवपौड्यतीक्ष्णः ।

*Suśruta Saṁhitā, VI. xxiii.*

- <sup>4</sup> सिद्धिं स्याद्वाक्चनं चूर्णैश्चैषां प्रधमणे हितं ।

*Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xxvi.*

- <sup>5</sup> षडङ्गुला द्विवक्त्रा या नाडी चूर्णन्तयो धमेत् ।

तीक्ष्णं कीलमितस्वक्त्र वातैः प्रधमनं हितं ॥

*Śārṅgadhara Saṁgraha, III viii.*

- <sup>6</sup> भ्रापनं रेचनशूर्णो युञ्ज्यात् तत् मुखवायुना ।

षडङ्गुल द्विमुखया नाड्या भेषजगर्भया ॥

*Cakradatta, Nasyadhikāra.*

Aretaeus says that a quill or reed or a wide long tube may be used for blowing powders into the pharynx. Alexander Trallianus<sup>2</sup> says that a calamus scriptorium, the joints of which have been removed, may be used as an insufflator. Oribasius<sup>3</sup> however gives the fullest description of the tube used as a nasal insufflator. "A reed slender and with a straight bore, 6 inches in length, and of such a size that it can be passed in the nares, is taken and its cavity entirely filled with medicament. The reed may be either natural or of bronze. This being placed in the nares, we propel the medicament by blowing into the other end."

In modern times, we advise our patients to do the same thing when powders are prescribed to be thrown into the nose or ears. The cylindrical shaft of the ordinary quill so cut as to be open at both ends will serve the purpose admirably. The nasal insufflator is used now for identical object.

Aretaeus<sup>4</sup> mentions a nasal syringe with a double tube. It consists of two pipes united together by an outlet so that liquid medicine may be injected into both the nasal cavities simultaneously, for injection into each nostril separately, he points out, can not be borne.

It is remarkable that in Mahāvāgga<sup>5</sup> mention is made of single and double nose-spoons. Nāthu-karaṇi (*i.e.*, an instrument to hold up the nose, so that the medicated oil

<sup>1</sup> Aretaeus, Vol. II., P. 408.

<sup>2</sup> Alexander Trallianus, IV. viii.

<sup>3</sup> Oribasius Collect, xii.

<sup>4</sup> Aretaeus, Ed. Adams, Vol. II., P. 459.

<sup>5</sup> Mahāvāgga, VI. 13. 1 & 2. Sacred Books of the East.





does not run out...Ed.) and Yamaka-nāthu-karaṇi (i.e., one that would go up both nostrils...Ed.). They are recommended to be made of gold, or silver, or bone, or ivory, or horn, or of the *nala* reed, or of bambu, or of wood, or of lac, or of the shells of fruit, or of chank-shell". (Sacred Books of the East).

To apply oily medicines inside the nasal cavity a cotton wick is first soaked in the oil and then it is pushed well inside the nose. It is recommended also to pour oil into the cavity through a tube, while the other cavity is pressed by a finger (Vāgbhata<sup>1</sup>).

To treat a case of fracture of the nasal bones, Suśruta recommends<sup>2</sup> two straight tubes open at both ends to be introduced into the nasal cavities, after putting the fractured ends in position, either lowering or elevating the raised or depressed end by a rod as required. Then bandages are to be applied. The tubes serve as splints to support the broken ends in position, while through their orifices the patient may breathe without inconvenience.

Similarly Celsus, after replacing the fractured ends in position uses oblong tents sewed round with a thin soft skin as splints into the nostrils; or a large quill smeared with gum, or artificer's glue may be applied in the same way. Paul also

<sup>1</sup> नासापुटं पिधायैकं पथ्यादिण निषेचयेत् ।

उष्णास्तु भेषज्यं प्रनाड्या पितुनाऽथवा ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, I. xx.

<sup>2</sup> नासां सन्नां विवृतां वा ऋज्वीं कृत्वा शलाकया ।

पृथग् नासिकयोनाडौ द्विमुखौ संप्रवेशयेत् ॥

ततः पट्टेन संवेष्ट्य हृतसेकं प्रदापयेत् ॥



says: "And some sew the quills of the feathers of a goose into the rags, and thus introduce them into the nose, in order that they may preserve the parts in position without obstructing the respiration; but this is unnecessary as respiration is carried on by the mouth."<sup>1</sup>

Suśruta also advises us to introduce these tubes into the nasal cavities during the performance of the Rhinoplastic operations.<sup>2</sup>

### 8. THE AṅGULI-TRĀṆAKA OR FINGER-GUARD.

Vāgbhaṭa says:<sup>3</sup> "It is generally made either of ivory or wood. The instrument is shaped like the teat of a cow, and is four aṅguli long. Two slits occur on the sides like those in the speculum for piles."

It protects the finger of the surgeon from being injured by the teeth of the patient and so helps the surgeon in opening the mouth of the patient with ease.<sup>4</sup>

In modern times, finger-guards are used for the same purposes.

<sup>1</sup> Paulus Ægineta, Vol. II. vi, xci. Syd. Soc. Ed.

<sup>2</sup> सुसंहितं सम्यगथो यथावन्नाडीदयेनाभिसमीच्या वद्धा ।

प्रोन्नम्य चेनामवचूर्णयेच्च पतङ्गयष्टीमधुकाञ्जनैश्च ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. xvi.

<sup>3</sup> अङ्गुलिचाणकं दान्तं वार्धं वा चतुरङ्गुलम् ।

द्विच्छिद्रं गोस्तनाकारं तद्वक्त्रविद्वतौमुखं ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, I. xxv.

<sup>4</sup> तच्च वक्त्रं विद्वतौ, सम्भृतं सुखस्यातुरस्य सुखव्यादानं निमित्तं सुखं सुखकरं स्यात् ।  
यत् इदं दन्तघातात् रक्षति अत उक्तं सुखमिति ।

Vāgbhaṭārtha Kaumudī, I. xxv.

अङ्गुलिदन्तेभ्यो रक्षणार्थत्वादङ्गुलिचाणमिति नाम ।



## 9. JONĪ-VRAṆEKṢAṆA OR VAGINAL SPECULUM.

Vāgbhaṭa<sup>1</sup> describes it to be a tubular instrument, sixteen aṅguli long, and six aṅguli in circumference. It consists of four blades, attached at their bases to a ring. The tube tapers gradually, the end is free and looks like the bud of a lotus. To the four blades are soldered four rods in such a way that on pressing their free ends, which pass out of the ring, by the surgeon's hands, the tapering end of the tube would gape widely. The surgeon by regulating the pressure of his hand, may open or close the speculum to any desired extent.

Another kind of vaginal speculum used to be manufactured out of the two horns of a buffalo by dividing each into two longitudinal halves. They should be so paired that their concave surfaces would look towards one another, their ends diverging outwards. So we get a pair of bivalve speculum out of a pair of horns.

The bivalve speculum of horn mentioned above, has its modern counterpart in the pair of speculum known as Barne's or Neugebauer's speculum.

<sup>1</sup> योनित्रयेक्षणं मध्ये शुषिरं षोडशाङ्गुलम् ।

मुद्रावद्धं चतुर्भिस्तमन्त्रीज मुकुलाननं ।

चतुःशलाकमाक्रान्तं मूलं तद्विकसेन्दुखे ॥ १७ ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hrdaya, I. xxv.

अस्य यन्त्रस्य कल्पनायां चत्वारिखण्डानि तथा कार्याणि यथा मुद्रिकया वद्धानि मिलितानि च पद्ममुकुलाकारं सुखा, अन्तरं शुषिरा षडङ्गुलं परिणाहवती नाडी स्यात् । ततस्तन्मध्ये प्रत्येकं खण्डसंलग्नं चतस्रः शलाकाः आमुखात् सन्निवेश्य शलाकानामध्यभागे तथा वद्नीयात् यथा शलाकामूलं पीडनेन यन्त्रस्य मुखं विकसेत् ।

The vaginal speculum or Diopter is mentioned by Soranus, Paul<sup>1</sup> and other Greek surgeons. Paul describes its method of working as follows:— "The person using the speculum should measure with a probe the depth of the woman's vagina, lest the stalk (fistula) of the speculum being too long, it should happen that the uterus should be pressed upon. If it be ascertained that the stalk is larger than the vagina, folded compresses are to be laid on the *alæ pudendi*, in order that the speculum may be placed upon them. The stalk is to be introduced, having a screw at the upper part, and the speculum is to be held by the operator, but the screw is to be turned by the assistant, so that the laminae of the stalk being separated, the vagina may be distended." The accounts given by Albucasis<sup>2</sup> and Haly Abbas<sup>3</sup> are similar. These instruments are described to be bivalve, trivalve or quadrivalve. A quadrivalve speculum of the Greeks is identical with the *Joni-vranekṣana* of the Hindus; the only difference being that the former is acted by screw mechanism, while the latter is worked on the principle of the lever. Drawings of several shorts of the Greek instruments are given in the surgery of Albucasis and by Schuſtet.<sup>4</sup> There are three specimens of vaginal speculum in the Naples museum, drawings of which are given by Milne. In modern times, we use similar valvular speculum for identical purposes.

<sup>1</sup> Paulus Ægineta, Vol. II. vi. lxxiii. Syd. Soc. Ed.

<sup>2</sup> Albucasis, *Chirurg*, II. 71.

<sup>3</sup> Haly Abbas, *Pract.* ix. 57.

<sup>4</sup> *Arsenal de chirurg.* tab. 18.





## 10. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR WOUNDS.

## Vraṇa-vasti or Wound-syringe.

If the wound be caused by deranged air and be very tender, especially if it forms on the lower half of the body, the vasti should be used. In diseases of the urinary organs, such as, obstruction of urine, faulty conditions of urine, impure semen, stone in the bladder and disorders of menstruation, uttara-vasti is necessary.<sup>1</sup>

There are two instruments mentioned—one for application of oleaginous medicines to a sore and the other for washing a sinus with medicated lotions. Each consists of a tube and a leather bag. The tube is smooth and rounded and is shaped like a cow's tail.<sup>2</sup> It is six aṅguli long. The base is broad and admits a thumb, while the end is narrow and admits a pea. There is a circular projection or ring at a short distance from the end. The base is fitted tightly into a bag of thin leather.<sup>3</sup>

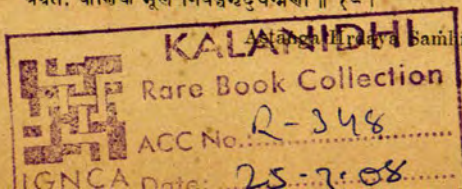
- <sup>1</sup> वातदृष्टो व्रणायस्तु रुचाद्यत्यर्थवेदनः ।  
अधःकाये विशेषेण तव वस्तिर्विधीयते ।  
मूत्राघाते मूत्रदोषे युक्तदोषेऽश्मरीव्रणे ।  
तथैवार्तवदोषे च वस्तिरप्युत्तरो हितः ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā. IV. i.

<sup>2</sup> नाड़ी व्रणानां स्नेहप्रयोगार्थं प्रचालनार्थञ्च द्वे यन्त्रे आह यन्त्रे इत्यादि नाड़ीव्रणाभ्यङ्ग-  
चालनाय नाड़ीव्रणानामभ्यङ्गार्थं प्रचालनार्थञ्च षडङ्गुलि षडङ्गुल दीर्घं, वस्तिरन्वाकृति वस्ति-  
नेवाकारि वृत्ते गोपुच्छाकारि \* \* \* \*

Vāgbhaṭārtha Kaumudī, I. xxv.

- <sup>3</sup> यन्त्रे नाड़ी व्रणाभ्यङ्ग चालनाय षडङ्गुलि ।  
वस्तिरन्वाकृती मूलोऽङ्गुष्ठ कलायस्त्रि ।  
अयतः कर्णिके मूले निवृत्तद्वयचर्मणी ॥ १८ ॥



To prevent the tube slipping out of the bag, an additional precaution is taken by tying a knot of thread over the leather covering the tube. For description of the bag, *vide infra*.

Śārṅgadhara<sup>1</sup> however says that the tube should have the thickness of the shaft of a vulture's feather and should admit a moong (Phaseolus Moong). It is eight aṅguli long.

Pālakāpya describes the tube for washing wounds of elephants to be made of copper, and shaped like the karontaka flower. It is sixteen aṅguli long.

In modern times, wound syringes are similarly used to wash the sore with medicated lotions.

For description of the tubes for vṛṇa-dhupana or wound-fumigation, *vide infra*.

## 11. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR ASCITES.

### Dākodara yantra or Canula.

It may be either metallic or manufactured from the cylindrical hollow calamus of a peacock's feather.<sup>2</sup> The tube is open at both ends and is of the same calibre throughout. Suśruta advises us to use a pipe of tin, or lead or a feather to drain the fluid, after the abdomen has been tapped.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> व्रणवस्तेषु नेव' स्यात् श्लक्ष्णमष्टाङ्गुलोलम्बितम् ।

मुद्गच्छिद्रगृध्रपचनलिकापरिणाहि च ।

Śārṅgadhara Saṁgraha, III. vi.

<sup>2</sup> द्विद्वारा नलिका पिच्छनलिका वा दाकोदरे । १८ ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxv.

<sup>3</sup> तव वृषादीनामन्यतमस्य नाडीद्विद्वारां पचनानां वा संयोज्या दोषोदक-  
भवसिञ्चेत्ततो नाडीमपहृत्य तैललवणेनाभ्यज्य व्रणवन्धेनोपचरेत् ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. xiv



Celsus describes a lead or copper canula for draining ascites.<sup>1</sup> Paul writes that the tip used to be bevelled off like a writing pen.<sup>2</sup> It was also employed in empyema.<sup>3</sup> Albucasis<sup>4</sup> mentions a tube of silver or copper or brass having a small hole at the bottom and three on its sides.

In modern times we use a metallic canula of similar shape for draining fluid in ascites.

## 12. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR HYDROCELE.

This is practically the same instrument described above. Suśruta<sup>5</sup> mentions a tube or canula to drain the fluid after tapping the hydrocele with the vrihimukha śastra or trocar. The Greek surgeons did not describe the operation. They preferred the open incision to puncture.<sup>6</sup> Rhases, however, describes the operation of puncturing the scrotum for hydrocele.<sup>7</sup>

## 13. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR URETHRAL STRICTURE.

Suśruta recommends gradual mechanical dilatation of the urethra by means of tubes made of iron, or wood, or lac, well-smeared

<sup>1</sup> Celsus, vii. 15 & ii. 10.

<sup>2</sup> Paulus Ægineta, Vol. II. VI. L. Syd. Soc. Ed.

<sup>3</sup> Hippocrates, ii. 259.

<sup>4</sup> Albucasis, Chirrug, ii. 54.

<sup>5</sup> सूत्रज्ञां स्वेदयित्वा तु वस्त्रपट्टेन वेष्टयेत् ॥

सेवन्त्याः पार्श्वं तोऽधस्ताद्विध्यैर्द्वौ हि सुखेन च ।

अथाव हि सुखां नाङ्गीं दत्त्वा विस्त्रावयेद्भिषक् ॥

Suśruta Samhitā, IV. xix.

<sup>6</sup> Paulus Ægineta, VI. lxii.

<sup>7</sup> Rhases, Cont. xxiv.



with ghee.<sup>1</sup> He advises us to use the same tube for three consecutive days, then another of larger calibre for three days more, and so on, till the canal be fully dilated. He reserves External Urethrotomy as a last resource.<sup>2</sup>

#### 14. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR RECTAL STRICTURE.

Suśruta similarly describes gradual dilatation of stricture of the rectum, using a higher number of dilators after the lapse of three days until the desired effect is attained.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> (a) निरुद्धप्रकाशे नाडीं लौहीसुभयतोमुखीं ॥

दारवी वा जतुकतां घृताभ्यक्तां प्रवेशयेत् ।

परिषेक वसामज्ज शिशुमारवराहयोः ॥

चक्रतैलं तथाथोज्यं वातघ्नप्रव्यसंयुतं ।

वग्राह्याह्वात् स्थूलतरां सम्यङ्नाडीं प्रवेशयेत् ॥

श्रोतोविवर्द्धयेदेवं स्निग्धमन्नञ्च भोजयेत् ।

भिलावा सेवनीं मुक्तां सद्यःक्षतवदाचरेत् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. xx.

(b) निरुद्ध प्रकाशे नाडीं द्विसुखीम् कनकादिजम् ।

चिन्ताभक्ता चुल्लुकादिस्नेहेन परिषेचयेत् ।

तैलीन वा वचदारुकल्कैः सिद्धेन च वग्राह्यात् ॥

पुनः स्थूलतरा नाडीद्या श्रोतोविवर्द्धये ।

... ..

... .. रुद्धगुदेऽप्येव क्रियाक्रमः ॥

Cakradatta, Kṣudraroga Cikitsā.

See also Yogaratnākara, P. 368, where these verses are quoted.

<sup>2</sup> See I (a). अर्थः—सेवनीं त्यक्त्वा शस्त्रेण वा सूत्रश्रोतः संकोचकारणं चर्म विदारयेत् । तस्यापि द्वारस्याविपाटे मणिहारमप्येवं दारयेदिति ।

Commentary of Srī Kaṇṭha in Vyākhyā Kusumāvalī  
(Anandāsram Series), P. 406.

<sup>3</sup> सन्निरुद्ध गुदे शोण्या निरुद्धप्रकाशक्रिया ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. xx.





There is no mention of solid bladder sounds in the Sanskrit medical books. But from the above descriptions, it seems beyond doubt that they had a set of dilators for stricture of the urethra and another set of dilators for stricture of the rectum. These dilators were tubes—either metallic or wooden—and had a regular gradation in the increase of their diameters. Cakrapāṇi mentions stricture dilators of gold.<sup>1</sup>

In modern times we have also two sets of these instruments—urethral and rectal dilators, numbered in an ascending series according to the increased diameters of these instruments.

#### 15. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR INJECTIONS INTO THE RECTUM.

##### Vasti yantra or Rectal Clyster.

Injections into the rectum are to be thrown by means of a tube with a membranous bag tied to its end. The tube is advised to be made either of gold, or silver, or lead, or copper, or brass, or bell-metal, or ivory, or horns, or glass, or precious stones, or wood or bamboo. It should be clean, smooth, strong, and tapering like a cow's tail, and should terminate in a smooth rounded bulb. The tube varies in length and circumference according to the age of the patient as follows:—

##### I. Caraka.<sup>2</sup>

Age.	Length of tube.	Opening at the end admits.
6 years ...	6 anguli ...	A moong
12 " ...	8 " ...	A pea
20 " and over ...	12 " ...	A small plum seed

<sup>1</sup> See foot note I (b), Page 124.

<sup>2</sup> सुवर्णरूप्यचपुतामरीति

कांस्थायसास्थिद्रुमवेणुदन्तैः ।

नलीविषाणैर्मणिभिश्च तेजैः

कार्याणि नेवाणि सुकर्णिकानि ॥



II. Suśruta.<sup>1</sup>

Age.	Length of tube.	Part of tube in bag.	Circumference of tube.	Circumference at end.	Measure of injection.
1 year	6 aṅguli	1½ aṅguli	Little finger	Shaft of heron's feather.	2 añjali
8 "	8 "	2 "	4th "	Shaft of falcon's feather.	4 "
16 "	16 "	3½ "	3rd "	Shaft of peacock's feather.	8 "
50 "	12 "	3 "	Pulp of thumb	Admits a plum stone.	12 "
70 "	Same as that of the 16th year.				

षड् द्वादशाष्टाङ्गुल सन्धितानि षड् विंशतिद्वादशवर्षजानाम् ।

स्युर्मृद्वकर्कन्धु सतीनवाहिच्छिद्राणि वर्त्यापिहितानि चापि ॥

यथावयोऽङ्गुष्ठ कनिष्ठकाभ्यां मूलाग्रयोः स्युः परिणाहवन्ति ।

ऋजुनि गोपुच्छसमाकृतौनिःश्लक्ष्णानि च स्युर्गुडिकामुखानि ॥

स्यात् कर्णिकैकाग्र चतुर्थभागे मूलाग्रिते वस्ति निवन्धने हे ।

जारद्वयोमाह्विषहारिणो वा स्याच्छौकरो वस्तिरजस्य वापि ॥

दृढस्तनुर्नष्टशिरो विगन्धः कषायरक्तः सुसृदुः सुगुद्वः ।

वृणां वयोवीक्ष्य यथानुरूपं नेवेषु योज्यस्तु सुवद्वसूचः ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VIII. iii.

Also quoted in Cakradatta, Anuṣaṇādihikāra.

<sup>1</sup> तव सांवत्सरिकाष्टद्विरष्ट वर्षाणां षड्दशाङ्गुल प्रमाणानि कनिष्ठिकानामिका मध्यमाङ्गुलि परिणाहान्ययेऽध्यर्द्धाङ्गुलाई तृतीयाङ्गुल सन्निविष्ट कर्णिकानि कङ्कश्येन वर्हिपत्र नाडीतुल्य प्रवेशानि सुदृमाषकलायमाव स्रोतांसि विदध्यान्नेत्राणि तेषु त्वास्थापनाद्रव्य प्रमाणमातुर हस्तसन्धितेन प्रसृतेन सन्धितौ प्रसृतौ द्वौचत्वारोऽष्टौ विधेयाः ।

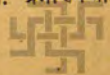
भवति चात्र ।

वर्षोत्तरेषु नेत्राणां वस्तिमानस्य चैव हि ।

वयोवलशरीराणि समीक्ष्य वर्डयद्विधिं ॥

पञ्चविंशतेरुद्धं द्वादशाङ्गुलं मूले ङ्गुष्टोदर परिणाहमये कनिष्ठिकोदर परिणाहमये त्र्यङ्गुल सन्निविष्ट कर्णिकं षट्पत्रपत्रनाडीतुल्य प्रवेशं कोलास्थिमात्रं च्छिद्रं क्लिन्नकलायमात्रं क्षिद्रमित्येकं । सर्वानिमूल वस्तिनिवन्धनार्थं द्विकर्णिकानि । आस्थापन द्रव्य प्रमाणं तु विहिता द्वादश प्रसृताः । समनेसूर्जं नेत्र प्रमाणमेतदेवद्रव्य प्रमाणन्तु द्विरष्टवर्षवत् ।

तव नेत्राणि सुवर्णरजततामयोरीति दन्तशृङ्गमणितरुसारमग्रानि श्लक्ष्णानि दृढानि गोपुच्छाकृतौगुज्जुनि गुटिका मुखानि । वस्त्यायावृद्धानां सद्वो नाति वह्ना दृढाः प्रमाणवन्तो गोमहिषवराहाजोरभाणां ।





III. Vāgbhaṭa II.<sup>1</sup>

Age. (years).	Length of tube.	Opening at base admits.	Opening at end admits.
Under 1	5 aṅguli	1 finger	A moong (phaseolus moong).
1 to 6	6 "	1½ "	A masha (phaseolous Rox).
7 to 11	8 "	2 "	A kalāya (pea) (pinus sativum).
12 to 15	9 "	2½ "	Boiled pea.
16 to 20	12 "	3 "	A śṛṅgalakoli (zizyphis cenoplia).
over 20	varies according to the age, strength and size of the patient; but the orifice at the base of the tube need not be wider.		

नेवलाभि हितनाडी नलवंशस्थि सम्भवा ।

वस्त्रालाभि हितं चर्मं सूक्ष्मं वा तान्त्रं घनम् ॥

वस्तिं निरूपदिग्धन्तु शुद्धं सुपरिमाजितं ।

सृङ्गनुद्धत हीनञ्च सुदुःखं हविमर्दितं ।

नेवमूलं प्रतिष्ठाप्य न्युज्जन्तु विवृताननम् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. xxxv.

<sup>1</sup> तयोस्तु नेवं हेमादि धातु दार्ढ्यस्थि वेनुजं ।

गोपुच्छाकारमच्छिद्रं श्लक्ष्णं गुडिका मुखं ॥

ऊनेऽब्दे पञ्चपूर्णेऽस्मिन्नासत्रभ्योऽङ्गुलानि षट् ।

सप्तमे सप्त तान्यष्टौ द्वादशे षोडशे नव ।

द्वादशैव परं विंशद् वीचा वर्षान्तरेषु च ।

वयो बल शरीराणि प्रमाणमभिवद्ध्यते ॥

साङ्गं ऐन समंमूलं स्थौल्येनाग्रे कनिष्ठया ॥

पूर्णेऽब्देऽङ्गुल मादाय तदङ्गुलिं प्रवर्द्धितं ।

चाङ्गुलं परमं छिद्रं मूलोऽग्रे वहते तु यत् ।

सुद्धं माषं कलायन्तु स्विन्नं कर्कशुकं क्रमात् ॥

मूलं छिद्रं प्रमाणेन प्रान्ते घटितं कर्णिकं ।

वर्त्याय पिहितं मूलं यथास्वं चाङ्गुलान्तरं ।

कर्णिका दितयं नेवे कुर्यात् तच्च च योजयेत् ॥

अजावि महिषादीनां वस्तिं सुसुद्धितं दृढं ।

कषाय रक्तं निच्छिद्रं यन्त्रि गन्ध शिरं तनुं ।

यथितं साधुसूत्रेण मुखं संस्थाप्य भेषजं ।

वस्त्राऽभावेऽङ्गुपादं वा न्यसेद्वासोऽथवा घनं ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xix.



Cakradatta<sup>1</sup>, Śārṅgadhara and Bhāva Miśra<sup>2</sup> follow Caraka as regards measurement. Kharanāda<sup>3</sup> also gives a similar description.

<sup>1</sup> See foot note 2, Page 125.

<sup>2</sup> नेतं कार्यं सुवर्णादिधातुभिश्चवेणुभिः ।  
 नलैर्द्वैतैर्विषाण्यैर्मणिभिर्विषा विधीयते ॥  
 एकवर्षात् षड्वर्षं यावन्मानं षडङ्गुलम् ।  
 ततो द्वादशकं यावन्मानं स्यादष्टसंमितम् ॥  
 ततः परं द्वादशभिरङ्गुलैर्नैव दीर्घता ।  
 सुद्राक्छिद्रं कलायाभं छिद्रं कोलास्थिसन्निभम् ॥  
 गोपुच्छसन्निभं मूलं स्थूलं तस्मात् क्रमात् कृशं ।  
 यथासंख्यं भवेन्नैव शृङ्खलं गोपुच्छसन्निभम् ॥  
 आतुराङ्गुष्ठमानेन मूलं स्थूलं विधीयते ।  
 कनीष्ठिकापरीणाहमये च गुटिका मुखे ॥  
 तन्मूलं कर्णिके द्वे च कार्ये भागाच्चतुर्थकात् ।  
 योजयेत् तत्र वस्तिञ्च वन्धयविधानतः ॥  
 मृगाजशुकरगवां महिषस्यापि वा भवेत् ।  
 भूचक्रोशस्य वस्तिस्तु तदलाभि च चर्मणः ॥  
 कषायरक्तः सुभट्टवस्तिः स्निग्धो दृढोहितः ।  
 व्रणवस्तिस्तु नेतं सप्तात् शृङ्खलमष्टाङ्गुलोन्मितम् ॥  
 सुद्राक्छिद्रग्रन्थप्रपन्नलिकापरिणाहि च ।

Śārṅgadhara Saṁgraha, III. v.

Bhāva Prakāśa, I. ii.

<sup>3</sup> वस्तिनेवसृजु शृङ्खलं सट्टत्तङ्गुलिकासुखम् ।  
 भवेन्नोपुच्छसंस्थानं सुप्रवाहं विकर्णिकम् ।  
 या विभागप्रणयने मर्यादा कर्णिका भवेत् ।  
 द्वे कर्णिके चोपरिष्टादस्त्राधारेऽथवान्तरे ।  
 साङ्गुष्टकपरीणाहं मूलं नेवस्य शस्यते ।  
 मध्यं त्वनामिकातुल्यमग्रे तुल्यकनिष्ठिकं ।  
 स्वेनाङ्गुलिप्रमाणेन दीर्घं स्याद् द्वादशाङ्गुलम् ।  
 कर्कशधुप्रवहच्छिद्रं श्रेष्ठमन्यदाथावयः ।





Hārīta<sup>1</sup> advises us to use a bamboo tube four aṅguli long, which is to be introduced into the rectum up to two aṅguli.

As a general rule, Caraka writes that the broad and the narrow ends of the tube are to be equal to the patient's thumb and little finger respectively, in circumference. The orifice at the end of the tube is to be kept closed by a wick, so that no foreign body may enter the lumen of the tube to occlude it. The plug may be easily removed when the tube is required for use, and then replaced.

Towards the narrow end of the tube is a projection or ring at a distance of about two aṅguli from the extremity. The height of the projection varies with the size of the tube at the base. It acts as a bar to the further introduction of the tube inside the rectum than required. Towards the base are two similar projections, two aṅguli apart from each other. To the one near the base is firmly tied the leather bag, so that the tube may not slip away suddenly during forcible compression of the bag. The other is meant to afford a firm grasp by the surgeon, so that the tube may not move during its introduction into the rectum. These projections are to be made of thread or a piece of cloth and are to be so shaped as to resemble the end of the proboscis of an elephant.

As regards the leather bags, they are recommended to be

विंशद्वादशषड्वर्षे द्वादशाष्टषडङ्गुलम् ।

कर्कशूक सतीनायमुखं विद्रवहम् ॥

Kharaṇāda quoted in Sarvāṅga Sundarī, I. xix.

<sup>1</sup> चतुरङ्गुलां वेष्टमयीं नाडीं प्रतिलक्षणं कृत्वा त्वया वस्तिप्रतिकर्म्मं कुर्यात् । \* \* \*

गुदाभ्यन्तरे द्वाङ्गुलमात्रं नाडी सञ्चारयेत् सुधीः ।

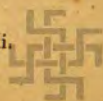
Hārīta Saṁhitā, V. iii.

made of the bladder of cows, or buffaloes, or hogs, or goats, or lambs. The bladder is to be well cleaned first with lime and water, so that no unpleasant smell may be emitted by the decomposition of its muscular tissue, then dyed red with Mañjiṣṭhā (*Rubia Cordifoliatum*) or with Harītakī (*Terminalia Chebula*, Retz.) and thoroughly dried. The bags are recommended to be soft, durable, entire and capacious. If the bladders of these animals are not available, the bags are to be manufactured from a frog's skin, or the peritoneum (one-fourth part would suffice) of any beast, or a piece of leather or a piece of very thick cloth. The size of the bag varies according to the age of the patient. It is to be firmly tied over the first projection at the base of the tube.

In the Siddhisthāna Chapter XI of the Caraka Saṁhitā,<sup>1</sup> there is a passage showing that veterinary medicine was well-known to the ancient Hindus at a very early period. This portion was edited by Dr̥dhavala and it is impossible to decide whether the passage refers to Agniveśatantra or not. It runs as follows:—  
“Then the disciples asked: ‘How are clysters to be made in cases of animals such as elephants, camels, cows, horses, lambs and goats?’ To this, the sage Ātreya explained the clysters for

- <sup>1</sup> अपृच्छदेनं सचवस्तिमब्रवीत् विधिञ्चतस्याह पुनः प्रचोदितः ।  
अजाविकेसौम्य गजोष्ट्रयोर्वा गवाश्चयोर्वस्तिमुशान्तिमाहिषम् ॥  
अजाविकादन्तमुवस्तिमुत्तरं वदन्ति वस्तिं विपरीतरूपम् ।  
सुवस्तिमष्टादशशोऽङ्गुलं तथैवनेत्रे च दशाङ्गुलं क्रमात् ॥  
गजोष्ट्रगोऽश्वाव्यजवस्ति सन्धौ चतुर्थभागे च सकर्णिकं वदेत् ।  
प्रस्थस्त्वजाव्योर्हि निरुहमावा गवादिषु द्विविगुणो यथा बलम् ।  
निरुह उष्ट्रस्य तथादकद्वयं गजस्य वृद्धिस्त्वनुवासनेऽष्टमः ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VIII. xi.





animals in the following manner. The leather bag of the vasti-yantra should be made of a buffalo's bladder for goats, lambs, elephants, cows, camels and horses. The vasti for these animals is known as suvasti and uttara-vasti as uttara-suvasti. The tube of the suvasti should be eighteen aṅguli long for elephants and camels, sixteen aṅguli for cows and horses, and ten aṅguli for goats and lambs. Like the vasti yantra used for men, it should have a projection at the junction (of the tube with the bladder) and another at the fourth division of the tube from the end."

In the Aśvavaidyaka<sup>1</sup> the tube for the horse is thus described: "The tube should be made either of wood, or metals, or horn, or bamboo, or reeds. Its length should be twelve aṅguli and circumference six aṅguli. The wise surgeon should make the tube of such a calibre as to allow a plum seed to pass through it easily. It should be straight, polished and tapering from the base. At a distance of four aṅguli from the end of the tube, a projection should be raised, while for tying the leather bag firmly to the tube, two projections ought to be constructed at the base".

Pālakāpya<sup>2</sup> describes the rectal clysters for elephants. He advises that these are to be made either of wood or bamboo. The end is bulbous and the surface smooth. The length

<sup>1</sup> काष्ठैर्दण्डैरथोभित्थ शङ्खवर्शनलादिभिः ।

द्वादशाङ्गुलदीर्घन्तु परिणाहे षडङ्गुलम् ॥

कोलास्थिमावच्छिद्रन्तु कुर्यान्नेवं विचक्षणः ।

मूलादनुक्रमं शृङ्गमसृणन्तु विशेषतः ॥

त्यक्त्वाङ्गुलानि चत्वारि कर्णिकान्तस्य कारयेत् ।

पुटकस्यप्रवन्धाय मूले द्वे चापि कर्णिके ॥

Aśvavaidyaka, XVI. vs. 2—4.

<sup>2</sup> Pālakāpya's Haṣṭi-Āyurveda, Sec. IV. Ch. V.



length of the tube varies, the most convenient being sixteen aṅguli for men and sixty-eight aṅguli for elephants. The projections at the base of the tube should be twelve aṅguli high. He describes in detail the method of introduction, position of the elephant, etc.

Dr̥dhavala advises us to reject the following eight kinds of tubes and eight kinds of bags<sup>1</sup> :—

### I. Tubes—

1. Hrasva or too short : For the injection does not reach the proper place.
2. Dīrgha or too long : For the injection passes beyond the proper place.
3. Tanu or too thin : The injection can not pass through the tube easily and so the bag may burst.
4. Sthūla or too thick : The tube pulls the mucous membrane of the rectum and anus backwards and forwards during its entrance and exit.
5. Jīrṇa or old, weak and delicate : The tube may break inside the rectum during its introduction and so cause injury to the gut or anus.

<sup>1</sup> ऋक्षं दीर्घं तनुस्थूलं जीर्णं शिथिलवन्धनम् ।  
 पार्श्वच्छिद्रं तथा वक्रमष्टौ नेत्राणि वर्जयेत् ॥  
 अप्राप्तातिगतिचोभकषणक्षणनस्रवाः ।  
 गुदपीडा गतिजिह्वा तेषां दोषा यथाक्रमम् ॥  
 मांसलच्छिद्रविषमस्थूलजालकवातलाः ।  
 क्षिन्नः क्षिन्नश्च तानष्टौ वस्तीन् कर्मसु वर्जयेत् ॥  
 गतिवैषम्यविस्त्रस्तस्त्राव्यदौयाह्ननिस्रवाः ।  
 फेनिलक्ष्युतधार्थ्यत्वं वस्तेः स्याद् वस्तिदोषतः ॥



6. Śīthilabandhana : The tubes do not fit the bags well, so during compression of the bags, the injected fluid runs out by the side of the tube.
7. Pārśvacchidra or leaky : Having slit on the side, the tube may injure the soft parts by rubbing against them.
8. Bakra or curved : The motion of the injected fluid would be curvilinear. It will strike a side of the rectum and so would not go inside the gut.

## II. Bags—

1. Mamsala or fleshy : The bag emits bad smell.
2. Chidra or leaky : The injection escapes outside.
3. Viṣama or uneven : Parts are unequally compressed and so the injection does not issue in a forcible jet.
4. Sthūla or thick : It is difficult to grasp the bag and so it can not be forcibly compressed.
5. Jālaka or having a network : The injection comes out.
6. Vātala or hollow, airy and incompressible : If air can not be expelled out, froth forms in the injection ; and so air is pumped into the rectum.
7. Chinna or torn : The injection flows down.
8. Klinna or moist : The injection can not be forced out.

Suśruta mentions eleven defects of tubes and five defects of bags of the Vasti yantra.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> अतिस्थूलं कर्कशमवनतमणभिन्नं सन्निकृष्ट विप्रकृष्ट कर्षिकं सूक्ष्मातिच्छिद्रमतिदीर्घ-  
मतिह्रस्वमित्येकादश नेवदोषाः । वहलताल्पता सच्छिद्रता प्रस्तीर्णता दुर्विहतेति पञ्चवन्ति  
दोषाः ।



## I. Tubes—

- |                         |                     |   |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---|
| 1. Atisthūla :          | Too thick.          | } Such tubes injure the rectum and so cause pain.                     |
| 2. Karkaśa :            | Rough.              |   |
| 3. Avanata :            | Curved.             |   |
| 4. Anu :                | Too thin.           | } It becomes useless to inject fluids into the rectum.                |
| 5. Bhinna :             | Broken.             |   |
| 6. Sannikṛṣṭa Karnika : | Projection near?    |   |
| 7. Viprakṛṣṭa Karnika : | Projection distant? | } Injure the rectum which bleeds.                                     |
| 8. Sūkṣma :             | Small orifice.      |   |
| 9. Atihrasva :          | Too short.          | } It becomes difficult to inject as the fluid comes out.              |
| 10. Atichidra :         | Large orifice.      |   |
| 11. Atidīrgha :         | Too long.           | } Too much fluid passes into the rectum and so pain is complained of. |

## II. Bags—

- |                   |                   |  |
|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| 1. Vahalatā :     | Fleshy.           | } It is difficult to tie the bags over the tubes properly.                 |
| 2. Prastīrṇatā :  | Large.            |  |
| 3. Sacchidratā :  | Perforated.       | } No fluid can be forced into the rectum and so the instrument is useless. |
| 4. Durvviddhatā : | Difficult to tie. |  |
| 5. Alpatā :       | Small.            | Small quantity of fluid passes into the rectum.                            |

गुदे भवेत् चतं रुक् च साधनं पूर्ववत् स्मृतं ।

आसन्न कर्णिके नेत्रे भिन्नेऽणौ वाप्यपार्थक्यः ॥

अवसेको भवेदस्तेस्मादोषान्निवर्जयेत् ।

प्रकृष्ट कर्णिके रक्तं गुदमर्म्भं प्रपीडनात् ॥

चरत्यत्रापि पित्तघ्नो विधिर्वस्तिश्च पिच्छिलः ।

ऋस्वेत्त्वणुस्रोतसि च क्लेशो वस्तिश्च पूर्ववत् ॥

प्रत्यागच्छन्ततः कुर्याद्रोगान्वस्ति विघातजान् ।

दीर्घं महास्रोतसि च ज्ञेयमत्यवपीडवत् ॥

प्रस्तीर्णं वहले चापि वस्ती दुर्व्वह दोषवत् ।

वस्तावत्येऽत्यता वापि द्रव्यस्यात्यगुना मताः ॥

दुर्व्वहं चाणु भिन्ने च विज्ञेयः भिन्न नेत्रवत् ।



## 16. UTTARA-VASTI.

## Urethral, Vaginal and Uterine Tubes.

Injections into the urethra and vagina are also recommended to be thrown in by similar contrivances: the tubes being adopted in length and circumference to the length and breadth of the passages for which they are intended.

## 1. Tubular Instruments for the Urethra.

The tubes intended for applying medicines into the male urethra is recommended to be twelve aṅguli long. Suśruta<sup>1</sup> advises us to use tubes fourteen aṅguli long. It is to be made of gold and is called Puṣpanetra. Its circumference is equal to that of a stalk of flower of Jātī (*Jasminum Grandiflorum*) or Mālatī (*Echites Crayophyllata*, Rox.), and the lumen of the tube allows a mustard seed to pass through it. It is provided with an annular projection just at the central part. Caraka<sup>2</sup> says that

१ वस्त्रोत्तरसञ्जस्यविधिं वच्चाभ्यतः परं ॥  
 चतुर्दशङ्गुलं नेवमातुराङ्गुलं सम्मितम् ।  
 मालतीपुष्पवन्तायं छिद्रं सर्षप निर्गमम् ॥  
 मेढ्रायामसमं केचिदिच्छन्ति खलु तद्विदः ।  
 स्नेह प्रमाणं परमं कुञ्जयाव प्रकौतितः ॥  
 पञ्चविंशदधोमावां विदध्याद् बुद्धिकल्पिताम् ।  
 निविष्टकर्णिकं मध्ये नारीणां चतुरङ्गुलं ॥  
 सूत्रस्रोतः परीणाहं सुदृढं वा हि दशङ्गुलं ।  
 तासामपत्यमार्गे तु निदध्याच्चतुरङ्गुलम् ॥  
 द्वाङ्गुलं सूत्रमार्गे तु कन्यानाम् त्वेकमङ्गुलम् ।  
 विधेयं चाङ्गुलं तासां विधिवद्वच्यते यथा ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV, xxxvii.

२ पुथ्यनेवच्च हैमं स्यात् सूत्रमौत्तरवस्तिकम् ।



it has two projections while Vāgbhaṭa<sup>1</sup> describes three. The bag is to be made of goat's bladder. A probe is first passed into the urethra to examine its condition and then the tube is introduced up to the length of six aṅguli. The bladder which contains the injection and which is tied tightly round the tube, is then compressed to force the fluid into the urethra. The tube of course, varies in size according to the dimensions of the organs of generation.

For the female, the puspanetra is described to have the length of ten aṅguli. The projection is at a distance of four aṅguli from the base. The circumference of the tube varies according to the width of the urethral canal. The calibre of the tube allows a moong to pass through it.<sup>2</sup>

जातीपुष्पस्य वन्नेन समं गोपुच्छसंस्थितम् ।

रौप्यं वा सर्षपच्छिद्रं द्विकर्णं द्वादशाङ्गुलम् ॥ ४८ ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VIII. ix.

<sup>1</sup> आतुराङ्गुलमानेन तन्ने व' द्वादशाङ्गुलं ।

वत्तं गोपुच्छवत् मूल मध्ययोः कृत कर्णिकं ।

सिद्धार्थक प्रवेशाय श्लक्ष्णं हेमादि सम्भवं ।

कुन्दाश्वमारुमुनः पुष्पवन्तोपमं दृढं ।

तस्य वल्मिर्दुलघुर्मावा युक्तिर्विकल्प्य वा ॥

\* \* \* \*

नेव' दशाङ्गुलं मुद्गप्रवेशश्चतुरङ्गुलं ।

अपत्यमार्गे योज्यं स्याद्द्व्याङ्गुलं मूत्रवर्त्मनि ॥

मूत्रकृच्छ्रविकारिषु बालानां स्लेकमङ्गुलम् ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xix.

<sup>2</sup> पुष्पनेत्रं प्रमाणान्तं प्रसदानां दशाङ्गुलम् ।

मूत्रस्रोतः परीणाहं मूत्रस्रोतोऽनुवाहि च ॥

गर्भमार्गे तु नारीणां विधेयं चतुरङ्गुलम् ।

द्वाङ्गुलं मूत्रमार्गे तु बालायां स्वेकमङ्गुलम् ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VIII. ix.



## Catheters.

It is curious to find no description of so important an instrument as the catheter. Injections were thrown into the urethra but the tube used was always a straight one, having the length of six aṅguli; so it could not possibly have reached the bladder in the male, and nowhere has the claim been put forward for it to have done so. The tube might have served well for the females. The female catheter of the Greeks, as preserved in the Naples museum, is 0.98 mm. long and is straight throughout (Milne).

In the Atharvaveda Samhitā,<sup>1</sup> however, we find a hymn, unmistakably alluding to the use of catheter in ancient times.

*Against obstruction of urine with a rod.*

“This hymn is intended to be ‘used in a rite for regulating the flow of urine’. The reed implies some primitive form of a fistul urinaria, the vastiyantra (one of the nāḍīyantrāṇi) of the late physicians—who however do not appear to have made frequent uses of it”.

\*                      \*                      \*                      \*                      \*

6. What in thine entrails, thy (two) groins, what in thy bladder has flowed together—so be thy urine released, out of thee with a splash! all of it. (In the groin are two vessels located in the two sides affording access to the receptacle of urine).

7. I split up thy urinator, like the weir of a tank—so be thy urine released, out of thee, with a splash! all of it.

8. Unfastened (be) thy bladder orifice, like that of a water-

<sup>1</sup> Book 1. 3. Whitney's translations and annotations.



holding sea—so be thy urine released, out of thee, with a splash ! all of it.

9. As the arrow flew forth, let loose from the bow,—so be thy urine released, out of thee with a splash ! all of it”.

## 2. Tubular Instruments for the Vagina.

Similarly injections were thrown into the vagina. The vaginal tube should be thicker than the urethral tube and in circumference should be equal to that of the little finger. It should be introduced into the vaginal canal up to a distance of four *aṅguli*, whereas into the urethra, the tube was allowed to enter up to a distance of two *aṅguli* only in the adults and of one *aṅguli* only in the girls.<sup>1</sup>

## 3. The Uterine Tubes.

The *uttara-vasti* comprises the urethral syringe—male and female—and the vaginal and uterine clysters. No distinct uterine tube is described in the text books. But *Suśruta*<sup>2</sup> says

<sup>1</sup> द्वादशाङ्गुलकं नेत्रं मध्ये च कृतकर्णिकम् ।

मालतिपुष्पवत्तामञ्जिद्रं सर्षपनिर्गमम् ॥

\* \* \* \*

स्त्रीणां कनिष्ठिकास्थूलं नेत्रं कुर्याद्दशाङ्गुलम् ।

मुद्गप्रवेश्यं योज्यच्च योन्यन्तश्चतुरङ्गुलम् ॥

द्वाङ्गुलं सूत्रमार्गे च सूत्रं नेत्रं नियोजयेत् ।

सूत्रकृच्छ्रविकारिषु बालानामेकमङ्गुलम् ॥

*Sārāṅgadhara Saṁhitā*, III. vii.

*Bhāva Prakāśa*, I. ii.

<sup>2</sup> उड्गुजान्वै स्त्रियै दद्यादुत्तानायै विचक्षणः ।

कल्पतरस्य कण्ठायै दद्यात् मुष्टदु पीडितं ।

विकर्णिकेन नेत्रेण दद्याद्योनिमुखं प्रति ।

गर्भाशयं विग्रहार्थं स्नेहेन द्विगुणेन तु ।

अप्रत्यागच्छति भिषक् वस्तावुत्तरसंज्ञिते ।





that to apply *uttara-vasti* to a female, she is advised to lie supine, keeping her knees flexed and well raised. For a girl the quantity of injection is one *prasṛta*.

To purify the uterine cavity, apply a clyster of twice the quantity of oleaginous medicines, inside the vagina by means of a tube having three rings. If after the application, the oily medicine does not flow out, then apply a second clyster containing medicines of the group called *śodhana* or purifiers, into the rectum; or let the clever surgeon introduce a probe into the space of the clyster; or press under her navel deeply by his closed fist. As the object of the injection is to clean the cavity of the uterus, there can be no doubt that a uterine tube is referred to in the passage. Again the precautions recommended if the injections do not come back easily, point to a uterine tube to have been used, for injections into the vagina can not be delayed in coming out. The Hindu writers often confounded the intra-uterine and urethral injections with the vaginal clyster. Caraka<sup>1</sup> says: "The *uttra-vasti* is to be used for the females during the period of menstruation, for then the uterus, being in a condition fit for impregnation, has its mouth open and so can easily be reached by the injection." This shows that uterine medication to be the object aimed at by the clyster.

भूयो वस्तिं विदध्यातु संयुक्तां शोधनैर्गणैः ।

गुदे वर्तिं निदध्याद्वा शोधनद्रव्यं संभृतां ।

प्रवेशाद्वा मतिमान्वस्तिद्वारमथैषणीम् ।

पौड्येद्वाप्यधोनाभेर्वस्तिनोत्तरमुट्टिना ।

*Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. xxxvii.*

<sup>1</sup> स्त्रीणाञ्चार्त्तवकालि तु प्रतिकर्मं तदाचरेत् ।

गर्भासना मुखं स्नेहं तदादत्ते ह्यपावता ॥

गर्भं धोनिस्तदा शीघ्रं जिते गृह्णाति मारुते ॥

*Caraka Saṁhitā, VIII. ix.*

The Greeks were no better, for Milne also complains: "It is difficult to separate ancient descriptions of injections into the vagina from those into the uterus, for the terms for the two parts are frequently interchangeable". Again he says: "It is probable that at other times under the heading of 'injections of the bladder', only irrigation of the urethra is meant".<sup>1</sup>

#### 18. TUBULAR INSTRUMENTS FOR INHALATIONS AND FUMIGATIONS.

The tubes for smoking were made, like the vasti tubes, of various metals, or glass or wood. Caraka<sup>2</sup> describes it as a straight tube having three pouches. The end of the tube is equal in diameter to that of a plum seed. Śārṅgadhara<sup>3</sup> adds that a reed or bamboo pipe will also serve the purpose. It is described as a straight tube, the broad base of which admits the patient's thumb while the narrow end, a plum seed. Suśruta<sup>4</sup> describes the base

<sup>1</sup> Graeco-Roman Surgical Instruments, P. 107-8.

<sup>2</sup> चतुर्विंशतिकं नेवं स्वङ्गुलीभिर्विरेचने ।  
द्वाविंशदङ्गुलं स्नेहे प्रयोगे चाङ्गमिष्यते ॥  
ऋजुविकोषफलितं कोलाख्यप्रमाणितम् ।  
वस्तिनेच समद्रव्यं धूमनेच प्रशस्यते ॥१६

Caraka Saṁhitā, I. ८.

<sup>3</sup> धूमनाडी भवेत्तत्र विखण्डा च विपर्विका ॥१०  
कनीष्ठिका परीणाहा राजमाषागमान्तरा ।  
धूमनाडी भवेद्वीर्घा शमने रोगिणोऽङ्गुलैः ॥११  
चत्वारिंशन्मितैस्तद्वद्वाविंशद्विष्टौ स्मृता ।  
तौ च चतुर्विंशतिभिः कासघ्ने षोडशोन्मितेः ॥१२  
दशाङ्गुलिर्वामनीये तथासप्ताद्व्रणनाडिका ।  
कलायमण्डलायूला कुलत्यागमरन्ध्रका ॥ १३

Śārṅgadhara Saṁhitā, III. ix.

<sup>4</sup> तत्र वस्तिनेवद्रव्यैर्धूमनेचद्रव्याणि व्याख्यातानि भवन्ति । धूमनेवस्तु कनीष्ठिका परिणाहमये कलायमावं स्त्रीतोमूलैः ऋष्टपरिणाहं धूमवर्त्तिं प्रवेश स्त्रीतोऽङ्गुलान्यष्ट चत्वारिंशद् प्रायोगिके । द्वाविंशत् स्नेहने । चतुर्विंशतिर्विरेचने । षोडशाङ्गुलं कासघ्ने वामनीये च ।



and end of the tube to be equal in circumference to that of the thumb and little finger respectively. The orifice should allow a common pea to pass easily through the tube. Vāgbhaṭa<sup>1</sup> says that there are three pouches or dilatations of the tube, shaped like the half-open buds at equal distances from each other. The tube is supposed to consist of four equal parts. The first pouch is located at the end of the first part, the second and third pouches at the ends of the second and third parts respectively. Cakradatta<sup>2</sup> also describes it similarly.

Dr̥ḍhabala<sup>3</sup> mentions another method of inhalation. He makes a paste of the medicines prescribed and smears it on a piece of silk cloth. This is then to be rolled round like a wick. This wick is to be dipped in ghee before use, and fire lit at one end, while the patient is to smoke it through the other end.

एते अपि कोलास्थिमावच्छिद्रे भवतः । व्रणनेवमष्टाङ्गुलं व्रणधूपनार्थं कलायपरिमण्डलं  
कुलस्थवाहि स्रोत इति ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. xl.

<sup>1</sup> वस्ति नेत्र सम द्रव्यं विकोषं कारयेदजु ।

मूला, गेङ्गुष्ट कोलास्थि प्रवेशं धूमनेवकं ।

तीक्ष्ण स्नेहन मध्येषु वीणि चत्वारि पञ्च च ।

अङ्गुलीनां क्रमात् पातुः प्रमाणे नाटकानि तत् ॥६॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxi.

<sup>2</sup> ऋजुत्रिकोषफलितं कोलास्थ्यप्रमाणितम् ।

वस्तिनेवसमद्रव्यं धूमनेव प्रशस्यते ।

साङ्गैस्त्र्यंशयुतः पूर्णोहस्त प्रायोगिकादिषु ।

नेत्रे कासहरे वंशहीनः शेषे दशाङ्गुलः ॥

Cakradatta, Dhūmapānādhikāra.

<sup>3</sup> प्रपुन्दरीकं मधुकं शङ्खं च समनःशिलाम् ।

सरिचं पिप्पलीं द्राचामिलां सुरसमञ्जरीम् ॥

कृत्वा वर्त्तिं पिवेद्भूमं चीमचेलानुवर्त्तिताम् ।

घृताक्तामनु च चीरं गुडोदकमथापिवा ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xxii,



Both Caraka<sup>1</sup> and Śārṅgadhara<sup>2</sup> advise us to make tubes of medicines, the fumes of which are advised to be smoked in the following manner:—Powder the medicaments and make a paste; measure one karsa; take a smooth reed (*Saccharum sara*, Rox.) twelve *aṅguli* long. Apply the paste round the reed, for a length of eight *aṅguli*. Dry it in shade. Remove the reed, leaving a dried tube of the paste. When required for smoking, light one end of the tube with a burning wick and smoke through the other end.

Caraka<sup>3</sup> describes another inhaler, which consists of two earthen basins (*soraba*) placed upon each other, their edges being pasted with flour. The upper one is perforated at the centre for the reception of one end of the tube, the patient puts the other

- <sup>1</sup> पिष्ट्वा लिम्पेच्छरिषीकां तां वर्त्ति यवसन्निभां ।  
 अङ्गुष्ठसन्नितां कुर्यादष्टाङ्गुलसमां भिषक् ॥  
 शुष्कां निगर्भां तां वर्त्ति धूमनेवार्पितां नरः ।  
 स्नेहाक्तमग्निसंस्पृष्टां पिवेत् प्रायोगिकीं सुखाम् ॥ ६ ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, I. v.

- <sup>2</sup> अथेषिकां प्रक्षिपेच्च सुश्लक्ष्णं द्वादशाङ्गुलाम् ।  
 धूमद्रव्यस्य कल्केन लिप्याष्टाङ्गुलः स्मृतः ॥  
 कल्के कर्षमितं लिप्त्वा क्वाया शुष्कञ्च कारयेत् ।  
 इषिकामपनीयाथ स्नेहाक्तां वर्त्तिमादरात् ॥  
 अङ्गुरैर्दीपितां कृत्वा धृत्वा नेत्रस्य रन्मुके ।  
 वदनेन पिवेद्धूमं वदनेनैव संयजेत् ॥  
 नासिकाभ्यां ततः पीत्वा मुखेनैव वमेत् सुधीः ।

Śārṅgadhara Saṁgraha, III. ix.

- <sup>3</sup> मधूच्छिष्टं सज्जरसं घृतं मल्लकसंपुटे ।  
 कृत्वा धूमं पिवेच्छुद्धं बालं वा स्नायु वा गवाम् ॥  
 श्लोशाकवर्द्धमानानां नाडीं शुष्कां कुशस्य वा ।

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xxi.





end into his mouth for inhalation. The lower pot contains glowing charcoal of catechu (*Accacia catechu*. Linn.) wood, over which are put pills of necessary medicines. The tube is from eight to ten anguli long.<sup>1</sup> This inhaler is intended for phthisical subjects. It is useful for allaying cough and exciting emesis. This instrument is called *mallaka samputa* or *sorāba samputa* or a pair of earthen basins. In such an apparatus Caraka recommends us to put powders of cow's horn, hairs, nerves and ligaments, besides other medicines. *Susruta*<sup>2</sup>, *Vāgbhata*<sup>3</sup> and *Cakradatta*<sup>4</sup> also describe it. *Śārṅgadharma*<sup>5</sup> however reserves this instrument for fumigating wounds only.

The length of the pipe will vary according to the different kinds of smoking prescribed by the physician. There are five kinds of smoking narrated :—

1. Śamana, madhya, proyogika — medium.
2. Brimhana, snehana, mṛdu — mild.

<sup>1</sup> दशाङ्गुलीभितां नाडीं अथवाष्टाङ्गुलीभिताम् ।  
शरावसंपुटच्छिद्रे कृत्वा जिह्वां विचक्षणः ॥  
वैरेचनं मुखेनैव कासवान् धूममापिवेत् ।

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xxii.

<sup>2</sup> इतरयोर्व्यपेत धूमोद्धार स्थिरे समाहिते शरावे प्रक्षिप्य वत्तिं मूलच्छिद्रेणान्येन शरावेण  
पिधाय तस्मिन्च्छिद्रे नेवमूलं संयोज्य धूममासेवेत् ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. xl.

<sup>3</sup> शराव संपुटच्छिद्रे नाडीं न्यस्य दशाङ्गुलां ।  
अष्टाङ्गुलां वा वक्त्रेण कासवान् धूममापिवेत् ॥

Astāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā I. xxi.

<sup>4</sup> अथवा सघृतान् शक्नुन् कृत्वा मल्लिकासम्पूटे ।  
नवप्रतिश्यायवतां धूमं वैद्यः प्रयोजयेत् ॥

Cakradatta, Nāsāroga Cikitsā,

<sup>5</sup> See foot-note 2. P. 145.



3. Recana, śodhana, tīkṣṇa — strong.  
 4. Kāsaghna — anti-cough.  
 5. Vāmana — emetic.

So the length of the tube would vary thus—

1. Caraka<sup>1</sup>

				Anguli.
In strong smoking	...	...	...	24
„ medium „	...	...	...	32
„ mild „	...	...	...	96

2. Suśruta.<sup>2</sup>

In medium smoking	...	...	...	48
„ oleaginous „	...	...	...	32
„ brain-sedative „	...	...	...	24
„ anti-cough or emetic „	...	...	...	16

3. Vāgbhata.<sup>3</sup>

In strong smoking	...	...	...	24
„ medium „	...	...	...	32
„ mild „	...	...	...	40

4. Śārṅgadhara.<sup>4</sup>

In medium smoking	...	...	...	40
„ mild „	...	...	...	32
„ strong „	...	...	...	24
„ anti-cough „	...	...	...	16
„ emetic or wound-fumigation	...	...	...	10

### FUMIGATION.

Similarly wounds are said to be purified by suitable medicinal fumigation. In the purification of wounds by fumigation, we get a glimpse of the antiseptic method of treatment in its

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note 2- P. 140.

<sup>2</sup> See foot-note 4. P. 140.

<sup>3</sup> See foot-note 1. P. 141.

<sup>4</sup> See foot-note 3. P. 140.





embryonic form. Suśruta<sup>1</sup> recommends the tube to be eight anguli long and to have the circumference of a common pea; and its orifice should be of the size of a kulattha (*Dolichos biflorus*, Linn.). The fumes of medicated substances from the inside of any closed pot containing fire, pass out through the tube and are allowed to play on any sore to purify it. For this purpose two earthen pots—*sorāba samputa*—may conveniently be used as before. Śārṅgadharma<sup>2</sup> uses a tube ten anguli long and recommends us to use Nimba leaves (*Azadirachta Indica*) for wound-fumigation. As another instance of the application of the principles of antiseptic methods to practical therapeutics, we may mention the use of medicinal injections into the cavity of the uterus to rectify its morbid conditions.<sup>3</sup>

A similar instrument was used to fumigate the uterus and vagina in various diseases of these parts. "Fumigation", says Suśruta,<sup>4</sup> "is to be applied to the vagina by burning the

<sup>1</sup> व्रणनेत्रमष्टाङ्गुलं व्रणधूपनार्थमकलायपरिमण्डलं कुलत्वाद्वाहिस्रोतइति ।

Suśruta Samhitā, IV. xl.

स चौमयवसर्पिर्भिर्धूपनाङ्गैश्चधूपयेत् ।

Ibid. IV. i.

<sup>2</sup> दशाङ्गुलिर्वाग्मनीये तथासाद् व्रणनाडिका ।

कलाय मण्डलस्थूला कुलत्वागमरन्ध्रका ॥१३

\* \* \*

शरावसम्पुटे क्षिप्वा कल्कमङ्गारदीपितम् ॥१७

किद्रे नेत्रं निवेश्याथ व्रणन्तेनैव धूपयेत् ।

\* \* \*

व्रणे निम्बवचाद्यञ्च धूपनं संप्रशस्यते ।

Śārṅgadharma Saṅgraha, III. ix.

<sup>3</sup> See foot note 2, P. 1318.

<sup>4</sup> सभंसङ्गे तु योनिं धूपयेत् कृण्वसर्पनिर्घोकिण पिण्डितकेनवा ।

Suśruta Samhitā, III. x.



slough of a snake (Bungarus) or pinditaka (?) wood, in cases of obstructed delivery of the fœtus. Caraka<sup>1</sup> mentions fumigation of the vagina by burning Bhurjapatra (Betula Bhojpatra), glass, precious stones and the slough of a snake as one of the means for removing the placenta. To remove the after pains and difficulty in micturition and defæcation, Suśruta<sup>2</sup> advises us to fumigate the vagina. He recommends fumigation of the uterus with purifying medicines. In fumigating these parts, the Hindu surgeons desired a local action, and did not share in the belief, held by some of the Greek gynæcologists<sup>3</sup> that "the uterus was an animal within the body which could wander about, being attracted by pleasant smells and repelled by disagreeable smells".<sup>4</sup> The Arabs also did not believe uterus to be an animal. This method of treatment was well known to the Greeks; for Hippocrates<sup>5</sup> writes that "fumigation with aromatics promotes menstruation and would be useful in many other cases, if it did not occasion heaviness of the head". He "directs us to take a vessel which holds about four gallons and fit a lid to it so that no vapour can escape from it. Pierce a hole in the lid, and into this aperture force a reed about a cubit in length so that the vapour cannot escape along the outside of

<sup>1</sup> भूर्जपत्रकाचमणि सर्पनिर्मोकैशस्रा योनिं धूपयेत् ।

Caraka Saṁhitā, IV. viii.

<sup>2</sup> कटुकालावुक्तवेधन सर्षप सर्पनिर्मोकैश्व कटुतैलविमिश्रैर्योनिमुखं धूपयेत् ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, III. x.

<sup>3</sup> Aretæus. Morb. Acut. ii. 11.  
Plato's Timæus.

<sup>4</sup> Græco-Roman Surgical Instruments. P. 158.  
Adan's Commentary on Paulus Ægineta, Vol. I. Bk. ii. P. 636-37.

<sup>5</sup> See also in the Hippocratic treatises, as Nat. Mul. vii. 9; 1 Morb. Mul. ovii. 1; 11 Morb. Mul. xl. 20, 21; Steril. vi. 3; Superfoet. ix. 3, x. 9, 11.





the reed. The cover is then fixed on the vessel with clay.”<sup>1</sup> Oribasius<sup>2</sup> and Soranus<sup>3</sup> used similar instruments for the purpose.

#### DISINFECTION OF ROOMS, CLOTHES, etc.

Caraka<sup>4</sup> says that if peacock's feather, bones of vaka bird, white mustard and red sandal wood, well powdered and mixed with ghee, be used in fumigation, the poison of a room, beddings, seats and clothes, is got rid of. Śārṅgadhara<sup>5</sup> advises us to disinfect a sick room by the fumes caused by burning the following substances with ghee : peacock's feather, Nim leaves (Melia Azadirachta), Vrihati, pepper, asafoetida, Jotāmānsī (Nardos- tachys jotamansi), seeds of Sālmālī (Bombax malabaricum), goat's hair, slough of a serpent, cat's faeces and ivory. Suśruta<sup>6</sup> advises fumigation of a sick room for a surgical patient for

<sup>1</sup> Græco-Roman Surgical Instruments P. 159.

<sup>2</sup> Coll. x.xix.

<sup>3</sup> Soranus. xxiii.

<sup>4</sup> शिखिर्वह्निवलाकास्थीनि सर्षपाद्यन्दने च घृतयुक्तः ।

धूमो गृहशयनासनवस्त्रादिषु शस्यते विषनुत् ॥५८॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xxv.

<sup>5</sup> मधूरपिच्छं निम्बस्य पत्राणि ब्रह्मतीफलम् ।

मरिचं हिङ्गु मांसी च बीजं कार्पाससम्भवम् ॥

कागरोमाहिनिम्बोक्तं विष्टा वैडालिकी तथा ।

गजदन्तश्च तच्चूर्णं किञ्चिद्घृत विमिश्रितम् ।

गृहेषु धूपनं दत्तं सर्वान्वालयहाञ्जयेत् ।

पिशाचान् राक्षसाञ्छिला सर्वज्वरहरो भवेत् ॥

Śārṅgadhara Saṁgraha, III. ix.

<sup>6</sup> सर्षपारिष्टपत्राभ्यां सर्पिषा लवणेन च ।

हिरण्य कारयेद्भूपं दशरात्रमतन्द्रितः ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. xix.



ten days, morning and evening, after the operation has been performed.

### 15. TUBULAR INSTRUMENT FOR CUPPING.

Generally cow's horn is recommended for the purpose. It is eighteen *aṅguli* long, its base, forming the mouth of the instrument; is three *aṅguli* wide (*Vāgbhaṭa*).<sup>1</sup> It is conical in shape and the cone is said to be either curved or straight. The other end is pointed and perforated to the extent of allowing a mustard seed to pass through it. The narrow end, however, is made to assume the shape of a woman's nipple by winding thread round it. This facilitates the operation of suction by the mouth of a surgeon when the broad end is placed against any diseased area of the patient's body. *Suśruta*<sup>2</sup> mentions its use in blood-extraction. For extracting blood, the part must be scarified before its application; and to facilitate the operation, the part should be fomented (*Yogarātnākara*).<sup>3</sup> After suction, the horn is to be covered by a piece of cloth or a small bladder of animals.

*Vāllūki*<sup>4</sup> describes the *śṛṅga* thus :—"It is the horn of a white cow, half-moon shaped and seven *aṅguli* broad. The orifice

<sup>1</sup> त्र्यङ्गुलास्य भवेच्छृङ्गं चूषणेऽष्टादशाङ्गुलं ।

अयेसिद्धार्थकच्छिद्रं सुनन्धचुचुकाकृति ॥

*Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhita*, I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> तत्रप्रच्छिते तनुवस्त्रपटलावनद्धेन शृङ्गेन शोणितमवसेचयेदाचूषणात् ।

*Suśruta Saṁhitā*, I. xiii.

<sup>3</sup> स्नेहं विदध्यात्कुशलय नाद्या शृङ्गेन रक्तं बहुशः हरेत् ।

*Yogarātnākara Arbuda cikitsā*.

<sup>4</sup> विषाणः श्वेतगोरिन्द्रचक्रं समाङ्गुलायतम् ।

क्षिप्तान्नः पिचुपेशिकं योज्य वातयुतेऽस्ति ।

अङ्गुष्ठे मूलवन्मूले छिद्रमयेऽस्य मुद्रवत् ।

*Vāllūki* quoted in *Nibandha Saṁgraha*, I. xiii.





at the base is equal in circumference to that of the base of the thumb, while the end which is perforated admits a moong. This orifice at the end is closed by a wick of cotton". Cakra-pānidatta says that the horn should be three anguli long, and its orifice should be of the size of the stalk of an oleander flower.

Suśruta mentions a peculiar use of the horn<sup>1</sup>: the extraction of an insect, cerumen, etc. from the middle ear by means of a horn or a probe. The horn was evidently used as an apparatus for suction, and Suśruta describes suction as one of the methods of extracting śalya from the body<sup>2</sup>. Caraka<sup>3</sup> uses horns and leeches to extract venom from a snake-bite; and Suśruta also refers to it. Besides the horns and cupping glasses, suction used to be accomplished by the surgeon's mouth.

Similarly Paul<sup>4</sup> says that foreign bodies may be sucked out from the ears with a reed.

On the method of suction as a mode of treatment, Erichsen<sup>5</sup> says:—"In former days, when duels with the small swords were of frequent occurrence, persons called "suckers" who were often the drummers of a regiment, were employed to attend the wounded combatants. This treatment which was conducted with a certain degree of mystery, consisted in sucking the wound till all blood ceased to flow, and then applying a pellet of chewed

<sup>1</sup> कर्णच्छिद्रे वर्त्तमानं कीटं क्षेदमलादि वा ।

शङ्खेणापहरद्भीमानथवापि शलाकया ।

Suśruta Samhitā, VI. xxi.

<sup>2</sup> See foot-note 3. P. 108.

<sup>3</sup> दंशं वा चुषेन्मुखेन यवचूर्णं पांशुपूर्णम् ।

प्रच्छन् विधजलौकः शङ्खैः स्वायं ततो रक्तम् ॥

Caraka Samhitā, VI. xxv.

<sup>4</sup> Paul. VI. xxiv. and III. xxiii.

<sup>5</sup> Erichsen's Surgery, Vol. 1, p. 341.



paper or a piece of wet linen to the orifice; in this way it would appear that many sword thrusts traversing the limbs were healed in a few days. The process of suction cleared the wound thoroughly of all blood, and drawing the sides into close apposition, placed the parts in the most favourable condition possible for union by primary adhesion. This practice might, perhaps, in many cases advantageously imitated in the present day by means of a cupping glass and syringe".

\* We also find Suśruta<sup>1</sup> describing a vasti yantra in the treatment of snake-bite. The tube is open at both ends, one end is applied to the part bitten by the snake, while to the other end the surgeon puts his mouth to suck out the poison. So this vasti yantra may be compared to the modern aspiration syringe.

Cupping instruments of metal or horn are still used by the Arabs in Kordofan and Sir R. Pasha<sup>2</sup> suggests that cupping is possibly borrowed by the west from the "most perfect physicians" the Arab. But now we are confident that the credit is due to the Hindus.

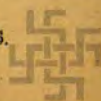
### ALĀBU YANTRA.

Alābu or gourd is described to be made of the bark of the succulent fruit called alābu (*Lagenarea Vulgaris*). The pulp is scraped away and the bark is allowed to dry. Such a bark should be selected which is twelve and eighteen aṅguli in length and circumference respectively. Its mouth should be circular and should have a diameter of three or four aṅguli. A fire is to be lit inside it by burning a strip of dry cloth to produce a vacuum, and the

<sup>1</sup> प्रतिपूर्य सुखं वस्तेर्हितमाचूषणं भवेत् ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, V. v.

<sup>2</sup> Vide Third Report, Wellcome research laboratory at Gordon. P. 316.





instrument to be applied instantly to the intended part of the patient's body. It should be thus used to drain blood and phlegm from the body (Vāgbhaṭa<sup>1</sup>). In modern times cupping glasses are used for like purposes in a similar manner.

Vāllūki<sup>2</sup> describes the alābu yantra thus:—"The mouth of the instrument is well formed and has the diameter of four aṅguli. The body has the circumference of eight aṅguli and is well smeared with a paste of black mud. It is used for drawing out blood". In yogaratnākara<sup>3</sup>, śrīṅga and alābu are directed to be used for extraction of blood from accidental wounds. Caraka mentions the use of alābu for blood-extraction<sup>4</sup>.

Another instrument known as the ghaṭī yantra was used exactly in the same way<sup>5</sup>. It is said to consist of a brass pot

<sup>1</sup> स्याद्वादशाङ्गुलोऽलावुर्नाहे त्वष्टा दशाङ्गुलः ।

चतुर्वाङ्गुल वृत्तासौ दीप्तोऽन्तः श्वभरकृच्छत् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> अष्टाङ्गुलपरीणाहा चतुरङ्गुलनालसन्निता सुमुखी कृष्णमृदालिता तनुः श्लेष्ठा रक्तावसेचनेऽलावुरिति ।

Vāllūki quoted in Nibandha Saṁgraha I. xiii.

सान्दर्पियाऽलाव्वा ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. xiii.

<sup>3</sup> क्षिप्ने भिन्ने तथा विद्धे च ते सद्यो भिषगवरः ।

पट्टसूत्रेण संखेदं व्रणं व्रणविशारदः ॥

मुहुर्मुहुर्यथा दुःखं ना प्राप्नोति व्रणी नरः ।

अथवा दीप्यलवणपोटव्या स्वेदयन्मुहुः ॥

सन्तप्तया तप्तलोहपात्रसंयोगतः क्रमात् ।

दृष्टं रक्तं स्थितं चापि शृङ्खलाव्यादिभिर्हरित् ॥

Quoted in Yogaratnākara.

<sup>4</sup> रुधिरागमार्थमथवा शृङ्खलावुभिराहरेत् रक्तम्—

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. vii.

<sup>5</sup> तद्वदघटीहिवा गुब्ब विलयोन्नमने च सा ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxv.



which is still used commonly in India by all classes of people for drinking purposes. A fire should be lit inside as before and the ghaṭī applied to the surface of the body covered by a piece of cloth. It soon becomes firmly fixed and is thus used to raise abdominal tumours by means of it for purposes of correct diagnosis and also to effect its cure by subsidence. It is still used by the common people for the same ends.

Caraka<sup>1</sup> says:—"After the abdominal tumour has been relaxed or softened a little by fomentation and oleaginous application, it is to be covered by a piece of cloth. Then inside a small ghaṭī, a fire is to be lit by burning kuśa and other forms of grasses; the pot is then to be inverted and pressed over the part covered by the cloth. By this way, the tumour would be drawn upwards *i.e.* be made prominent. The ghaṭī is then to be taken away and after removing the cloth, and examining the extent of the tumour, it is to be incised. The different shapes of the incisions are called vimārga, ajapada and ādarśa. After incision, the tumour is to be pressed and rubbed with fingers. But the intestines and the heart must not be touched."

The extraction of blood by means of cups, has been practised from remote antiquity. It is interesting to note that both the Latin and Greek terms—*cucurbitula* and *κυβα* signify a gourd;

<sup>1</sup> क्षिग्धस्त्रिन्नशरीराय शुब्धं शैथिल्यमागते ॥

परिविध्य प्रदीक्षांस्तु वल्ज्जानयवा कुशान् ।

मिषक् कुम्भे समावाप्य गुल्मं घटमुखं क्षिपेत् ॥

स गृह्णीतो यदा गुल्मस्तदा घटमथोद्धरेत् ।

वस्त्रान्तरं ततः कृत्वा भिन्द्याद्गुल्मप्रमाणवित् ॥





and we know that Alābu also means a gourd. It is curious that the instrument should have been known to the ancient Hindus and Greeks by the same name.

Prosper Alpinus<sup>1</sup> (16th century) who wrote a book on the state of medicine in Egypt in his time, gives drawings of cupping horns he saw there. The horns were those of young bulls, highly polished, with a small hole at the top, by which the air was extracted by suction. To close the orifice a small tab of parchment was taken into the mouth and affixed by the tongue. The Egyptians also used cupping glasses, by suction and not by fire, a method evidently unknown to them.

Hero of Alexandria (B. C. 285—222) describes an interesting form of cup. Milne summarises his account thus :<sup>2</sup>—"The figure shows a cup of ordinary flattened form, divided into two by a diaphragm. Two tubes pass through the fundus, one passing through the diaphragm, the other not. Each of the tube is fitted with another which is open at its inner end but closed at its outer end and provided with a small cross bar to rotate it. Each of these sets of tubes is perforated by small openings. In the case of the short tubes, these are outside the cup, in the case of the long tube they are inside the cup, in the chamber shut off by the diaphragm. By rotating the piston these openings can be placed in apposition or not at will, thus forming valves. Open valve A by placing the hole in apposition. Close valve B by turning the holes away from each other. The inner chamber of the cup is now shut off except for the small hole A. Apply the mouth to the valve A, and suck the air out of the chamber. Close valve A. Apply the cup to the affected part. The advantage

<sup>1</sup> De Med. Aegyptiorum. Ed. 1541 lib. ii. ch. xii. p. 139.

<sup>2</sup> Græco-Roman Surgical Instruments. P. 104.



of this arrangement is that the affected part is not directly sucked upon by the mouth ; and the instrument is therefore more pleasant for the operator to use”.

Celsus<sup>1</sup> thus describes the different kinds of cups :—“There are two kinds of cups, bronze and horn. The bronze is open at one end and closed at the other ; the horn, open at one end, as in the previous case, has at the other end, a small foramen. Into the bronze kind, burning lint is placed, and then the mouth is fitted on and pressed until it sticks. The horn is placed empty on the body, and then by that part where the small foramen is, the air is exhausted by the mouth, and the cavity is closed off above with wax and it adheres in the same way as before. Either may advantageously be constructed, not only of these varieties of materials but of another substance. If other things are not to be had, a small cup or a narrow mouthed jar will answer the purpose. When it has fastened on, if the skin has previously been cut with a scalpel, it extracts blood ; but if it be entire, air”.

Paul<sup>2</sup> remarks that “those which are made with longer necks and broader bellies are possessed of a strong power of attraction.” Both Oribasius<sup>3</sup> and Aretaeus<sup>4</sup> allude to them. Antyllus says that there are three materials of which cups are made—glass, horns, and bronze. A good number of such cups occur in the Naples, British and Scottish National Museums.

<sup>1</sup> Celsus. II. xi.

<sup>2</sup> Paulus Aegineta. VI. xii.

<sup>3</sup> Med. Coll. VII. xvi.

<sup>4</sup> De Morb. Acut. I. 10.





Albucasis<sup>1</sup> gives a full account of dry cupping. In applying the instrument he advises us either to create a flame in it, or to fill it with hot water. He gives drawings of various instruments of cupping. Rhases speaks of applying a glass or a cupping instrument to draw off blood after leeching. The other Arabians give little additional information.

In modern times, cupping glasses are used in the same way as before.

## V. Śalākā or Rods.

The rods, or pricker-like instruments, or probes are described to be of various kinds and are recommended to be used for various purposes<sup>2</sup>; so their length and circumference would vary according to some special uses required of them. Suśruta<sup>3</sup> says : "There are two kinds of śalākā with their ends shaped like the head of the earthworm. They are used for probing abscesses and sinuses.

Two śalākā have their ends shaped like the wing of an arrow. These are to be used for raising any part for the purpose,

<sup>1</sup> Albucasis, Chirrug. ii. 98.

<sup>2</sup> नाडीत्रणान् शल्यगर्भानुन्मार्ग्युत्सङ्गिनः शनैः ।

करीरवालाङ्गुलिभिरिषग्या वैषयेद्विषक् ।

Suśruta Samhitā, IV. i.

<sup>3</sup> शलाकायन्त्राण्यपि नाना प्रकाराणि नाना प्रयोजनानि यथायोगपरिणाहृदीर्घाणि च तेषां गण्डुपदशरपुङ्गुसर्पफण वङ्गीशमुखे द्वे द्वे एषण व्यूहनचालनाहरणार्थमुपदिश्येते । मसूरदल-  
मावमुखे द्वे किञ्चिदानताये स्तोतोगतशल्योद्धरणार्थं । षट्कापांसकृतोष्णीषाणि प्रमार्जन-  
क्रियासु । चीणि दर्वाकृतीनि खल्लमुखानि चारौषधप्रणिधानार्थं । वीण्यन्तानि जाम्बवदनानि  
वीण्यङ्गुशवदनानि षड्वाग्रिकर्मस्त्रिभिप्रेतानि । नासावुदहरणार्थमेकं कोलास्थिदलमात्रमुखं  
खल्लतीक्ष्णोऽं । अन्ननार्थमेकं कलाग्रपरिमण्डलमुभयतो मुकुंलाय । मूत्रमार्गाविशोधनार्थ-  
मेकं सालतीपुण्ड्रान्नाग्रप्रमाणपरिमण्डलमिति ।

Suśruta Samhitā, I. vii.



after incision, of extracting any foreign body from it. Others assign to them the function of bringing together the lips of the wound caused by an abscess being opened and emptied.

Two śalākā have their ends shaped like the hood of a snake. They are useful for transferring any material from one part to another. Some of the simple probes used by the ancient Greek and Roman surgeons carried a single or double snake of Æsculapius at one end. But evidently it was meant as an ornamentation and served no useful purpose.

Two śalākā have their ends shaped like a fish-hook but are blunt. They are used for extracting any extraneous material from the muscles or bones".

The last six kinds of Suśruta are practically the same as the six śaṅku of Vāgbhaṭa,<sup>1</sup> which are the following :—

The śaṅku are six in number. Amongst these, two are twelve and sixteen aṅguli long respectively. They are used for the purpose of raising a foreign body upwards from the wound.

Two varieties have their ends shaped like the hood of a snake. They are ten and twelve aṅguli long ; and they are used for the purpose of moving a foreign body in the wound in all directions.

Two varieties have the shape of a fish-hook—the ends resembling the stem of an arrow. These are used for the extraction of foreign bodies from the wound.

<sup>1</sup> शङ्खः षड्भौ तेषां षोडशद्वादशाङ्गुली ।

व्यहनेऽहि फणावक्रौ द्वौ द्वादश दशाङ्गुली ॥

चालने शरपुङ्खा स्या वाहाय्ये वडिशक्रतिः ॥२५॥





Suśruta<sup>1</sup> mentions another pair of śalākā which have their ends shaped like a masūra pulse, and slightly curved ; these are used for the purpose of extracting a foreign body from the external outlets of the body such as mouth, nose, etc. They are eight and nine aṅguli long respectively.

### SWAB PROBES.

Six śalākā are used for the purpose of wiping out the principal excretory canals of the body *viz.*, rectum, nose and ears.<sup>2</sup> Their ends are covered with cotton like a head-dress (pāṅḍī). The two śalākā intended for the rectum, have the lengths of ten and twelve aṅguli respectively for short and long distances. So the two varieties of probes for the ears are eight and nine aṅguli long, while the other two kinds of probes for the nose are six and seven aṅguli long respectively. Some commentators are of opinion that these six śalākā are meant for clearing abscesses.

For similar purposes the Greek and Roman surgeons used the spathomele or spatula probe. Priscianus<sup>3</sup> writes: "First of all we must frequently wipe away the clots of blood from the nose

<sup>1</sup> See foot note 2, P. 155.

उभेगण्डपदमुखे स्रोतभ्यः शल्यहारिणी ।

मंसूरदलवक्त्रे ई स्याता मष्टनवाङ्गुली ॥२४॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> कार्पास विहितोष्णीषाः शलाकाः षट्प्रमार्जने ।

पायावासान्न दूरार्थे ई दश द्वादशाङ्गुली ।

ई षट् सप्ताङ्गुली घ्राणे ई कर्णेऽष्टनवाङ्गुली ॥२८॥

Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Priscianus, xiv.



with the end of a spathomele wrapped on the 'berry' with soft wool, and then occlude it by plugging with wool in the same way."

The use of probes, having the ends wrapped with wool, for wiping out discharge of pus from the ears of horse, is mentioned by Jayadatta Suri<sup>1</sup> in his Treatment of Horses.

### SPOON-SHAPED PROBES.

Three probes are described to have their ends shaped like a khala or mortar with a conical cavity, and so they resemble a spoon. They are to be used for the purpose of applying caustic solutions, etc.<sup>2</sup>

Similarly cyathiscomele, which is a variety of spathomele in which the spatula is replaced by a spoon, is said to have been used by the Greek surgeons to mix, measure and apply medicaments. The specimens of these instruments occur in the Naples Museum. Sometimes the edge of the spoon is sharp and is recommended to be used as a curette. Scrivonius Largus directs us to use the spoon of an ear specillum for the application of caustics to hæmorrhoids.

<sup>1</sup> पूयस्त्राविण जानीयात् शोथमभ्यन्तरोद्गम् ।

पित्तुना वेष्टयित्वा तु शलाकायं समाहितः ॥

तेन कर्णान्तरे पूयं कर्षयित्वा विचक्षणः ।

पातितस्य सुवङ्गस्य पूरयेन्मधूसर्पिषा ॥

Aśhvavaidyaka, Ch. 34, v. 2. and 3.

<sup>2</sup> See foot-note 2, P. 155.





## NAIL-SHAPED PROBES.

Vāgbhaṭa<sup>1</sup> describes three other probes for the same purpose. They are eight aṅguli long; their ends are bent and resemble in size and shape the nails of the third, fourth, and fifth fingers respectively.

Paul<sup>2</sup> mentions a nail-shaped probe in the treatment of bubonecele. But this was applied as a cautery and not for the application of medicaments. Nail-shaped cauteries are also referred to by Hippocrates<sup>3</sup> in the treatment of recurrent dislocation of the shoulder-joint.

## JĀMVOVAUṢṬHA PROBES.

Three probes are called Jāmvoṇuṣṭha for their ends are shaped like the fruit of Jambul tree (*Eugenia jambolanum*).<sup>4</sup> Three other śalākā have their ends shaped like aṅkuśa or elephant driver's goad.<sup>5</sup> They may be made of any length required

<sup>1</sup> अष्टाङ्गुला निम्नमुखा स्तिस्रः चारौषघ क्रमे ।

कनीनी-मध्यमाऽनामी-नखमान-समैर्मुखैः ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> Paulus Aegineta, VI. lxx.

<sup>3</sup> Hippocrates iii. 15.

<sup>4</sup> See foot-note 2, P. 155.

शलाका जाम्बवौष्टानं चारिऽष्टौ च पृथक् त्रयं ।

युञ्ज्यात् स्थूलानु द्वीर्धानां,

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxv.

<sup>5</sup> See foot-note 2, P. 155.

For the diagram of the aṅkuśa see Fergusson's Tree and Serpent Worship; Plate xxxiii. Sanchi, xxxvii. fig. I. and xxxviii. fig. 1 & 2.



by the surgeon. These six varieties are recommended for the purpose of applying caustic medicaments and the actual cautery.

Paul<sup>1</sup> mentions a gamma-shaped cautery in the radical cure of hernia. This cautery is shaped like the Greek letter Γ; so it resembles the añkuśa cautery of the Hindus. The añkuśa is similar in appearance to the Greek letter.

One variety, which is used for the purpose of removing a tumour from the interior of the nasal cavity, has its end shaped like a khala or mortar, with sharp edges, and of the size of half the stone of the fruit of the jujube tree (*Ziziphus jujuba*)<sup>2</sup>. Vāgbhaṭa<sup>3</sup> mentions a similar probe for the purpose of applying actual cautery to a nasal tumour. Its end resembles in shape and size, a half of the stone of the fruit of the jujube tree.

This spoon-shaped probe of the Hindus is comparable to the curette like sharp cyathiscole of the Greeks, noted before.

### COLLYRIUM PROBES.

For the purpose of applying collyria to the eyes, a rod is mentioned having the length of eight añguli and the thickness of a pea. Its both ends are shaped like buds<sup>4</sup>.

The probes for applying collyria to the eyelids, should be six añguli long, with a rounded bulbous end. They may be made of gold, or silver, or copper, or iron, or stone. For the habitual use of collyria, a lead probe is prescribed. When medicines are directed

<sup>1</sup> Paul, VI. lxii.

<sup>2</sup> See foot-note 2, P. 155.

<sup>3</sup> कोलास्थि दल तुल्या स्वा नासार्शोऽर्च्यं द दाहकम् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxv.

<sup>4</sup> See foot-note 2, P. 155.





to be applied not only to the lids but also to the conjunctiva, the finger is recommended as it is a softer and safer instrument. Again the probes would vary according to the nature of the collyria to be used. As for the application of lekhana collyrium, the probe should be made of copper and should be ten aṅguli long. The probe is advised to be made thinner at its middle to afford a firm grasp by the surgeon. The ends are shaped like buds. For applying ropana collyrium, a similar probe is to be used, but it should be made of steel; while for the application of a collyrium for the improvement of the visual strength, a probe made of gold or silver, and having the size and shape of a finger is recommended by Cakradatta.<sup>1</sup>

Suśruta<sup>2</sup> likes a probe of steel, or bell-metal, or copper for lekhana collyrium; and of gold, or silver, or horn, for ropana and snehana collyria. The probe should be eight aṅguli long, and the eye is to be kept open and fixed by the left hand, while the right hand is to hold the probe, and so the collyrium is to be applied to the eye.

<sup>1</sup> दशङ्गुला तनुर्मध्ये शलाका सुकुलानना ॥

प्रशस्ता लेखने ताम्बी रोपणे काललोहजा ।

अङ्गुलीव सुवर्णोत्था रूप्यजा च प्रसादने ॥

Cakradatta. Āschyotana Cikitsā.

<sup>2</sup> तेषां तुल्यगुणान्वेव विदध्याद् भाजनान्वपि ।

सौवर्णे राजतं शाङ्गैर्नाभं वैदूर्यकांस्रजं ॥

आयसानि च योज्यानि शलाकाश्च यथाक्रमं ।

वक्रयोर्मसुकुलाकारा कलाय परिमण्डला ॥

अष्टाङ्गुला तनुर्मध्ये सुकृता साधुनियहा ।

औडुस्वर्थश्मजातानि शारीरी वा हिता भवेत् ॥

Suśruta Samhitā, VI, xviii,



Śārṅgadhara<sup>1</sup> says: "The collyrium probe should be made of stone or metal. It should be eight aṅguli long and its ends must be made smooth and rounded like a common pea. For lekhana collyrium, a copper, or iron, or stone probe is to be used, while for ropana collyrium the tip of the finger is recommended for its softness."

Of the probes used by the Hindus for applying collyrium to the eyes, fortunately we possess a few specimens. Among the objects of interest found in the excavations at Bijnor, we find, "fourthly, one copper salai or instrument for applying antimony to the eye, similar to those found in the Bihat excavations."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> सुखयोः कुण्ठिता श्लक्षा शलाकाष्ठाङ्गुलीन्मिता ।

अश्मजा धातुजा वा स्यात् कलायपरिमण्डला ॥

ताम्रलोहाश्मसंजाता शलाका लेखने मता ।

सुवर्णरजतोडूता शलाका स्नेहने मता ।

अङ्गुलीच सदुत्वेन कथिता रोपणे बुधैः ॥

Śārṅgadhara Saṅgraha. III. xiii.

Yogaratanākara. Eye Diseases. P. 823.

त्रिफल सलिलयोगे शङ्कराजद्रवे च

हविषि च विषकल्के क्षीरे अजि मधूये ।

प्रतिदिनमथ तप्तं सप्तधा सीसमेकं

प्रणिहितमथ पश्चात् कारयेत् तच्छलाकाम् ॥

सवितुरुदयकाले साञ्जना व्यञ्जना वा

करकरिकसमेतान्मर्म्पैश्चिद्यरोगान् ।

असितसित समुत्थान सन्धिवर्माभिजातान्

हरति नयनरोगान् सेव्यमाना शलाका ।

Cakradatta, Netraroga Cikitsā.

<sup>2</sup> "Vide Princep's (Thomas') Indian Antiquities, fig. 18. pl. iv" J.A.S.B.



Specillum with two olivary ends formed a variety of probe of the Greek and Roman surgeons. It was used as an ordinary probe in dealing with crooked fistulæ, and as a cautery to destroy the roots of hairs after epilation. Sometimes it carried an eye in one of its olives and was used in the treatment of nasal polypus. The eye was threaded with a cord having many knots along it. The other end of the probe was pushed through the nose and withdrawn by the mouth, and then by a sawing movement of the cord with both hands of the surgeon, the polypus was removed.<sup>1</sup> A single probe for the application of semi-solid medicaments, occurs in the outfit of the oculist of Rheims, in the museum at St. Germain-en-Laye and is figured by Milne.<sup>2</sup>

#### KARṆA-ŚODHANA OR EAR-CLEANER.

This śalākā is said to have its end shaped like the end of a leaf of Aśvattha (*Ficus religiosa*). The instrument looked like a *srūva*—one of the famous spoons used in sacrificial ceremony.<sup>3</sup> It was used for the purpose of extracting wax from the ears.

The different kinds of spoons used in the ancient Hindu ceremonies were as follows: "Three different *srūk* or offering-spoons are used *viz.*, the *guhū*, *upabhrit* and *drubha*. They are made each of a different kind of wood, of an arm's length (or according to others, a cubit long) with a bowl of the shape and size of the hand, and a hole cut through the bark and front

<sup>1</sup> Paul VI. lxxxvii, VI. xiv, VI. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> Græco-Roman Surgical Instruments, pl. xi. fig. 5.

<sup>3</sup> कर्णशोधनं मश्वत्थ पत्रं प्रान्तं सुवाननं ॥



side of the bowl and fitted with a spout, some eight or nine inches long and shaped like a goose's bill. The *srūva* or dipping-spoon, on the other hand, chiefly used for ladling the clarified butter (or milk) from the butter vessel into the offering-spoons, is of the *khadira* wood (*Accacia catechu*), a cubit long, with a round bowl measuring a thumb's joint across and without a spout".<sup>1</sup>

So we see that the bowl of the *karna-śodhana* was round in shape.

Suśruta also mentions a *śalākā* for the extraction of cerumen or minute insects from the ears.<sup>2</sup> *Cakrapāṇi*<sup>3</sup> alludes to it. In modern times, the ear-cleaner, as used commonly in India, is a *tāla yantra*. Ear specillum is frequently mentioned by the Greeks and Romans. It consisted of a small narrow scoop at one end and a simple probe at the other. The use of the scoop is thus described by Archigenes<sup>4</sup>: "If a bean, stone, etc. fall into the ear, remove it with the small narrow scoop of the ear specillum". Celsus<sup>5</sup> directs us to extract a scab or cerumen by means of the ear specillum.

The ear scoop used by the modern surgeons is a narrow scoop, more like the Hindu *pujā* vessel known as *kuśi*. The ear scoop is often made in combination with a director.

<sup>1</sup> Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa, Sacred Books of the East. 1. 3. 1. 1. foot-note.

<sup>2</sup> See foot note 1, P. 149

<sup>3</sup> क्लेदयित्वा तु तैलिन स्वेदेन प्रविलाय्य च ।

शोधयेत् कर्णगूथस्तु भिषक् सम्यक् शलाकया ॥

Cakradatta, *Karṇaroga*.

<sup>4</sup> Galen. XII, 652.

<sup>5</sup> Celsus. VI. viii.





## GARBHA-ŚĀṆKU. FŒTUS OR TRACTION HOOK.

The end of this instrument is said to have been bent like añkuśa or elephant driver's goad. It is described to have the same length as the other śaṅku have *i. e.* ten to sixteen añguli, and it is eight añguli in width.<sup>1</sup> It is recommended for extracting a dead foetus from the mother's womb, after perforating its head by the maṇḍalāgra or mudrikā knife. Suśruta recommends us to perforate the head and then to extract the bones by the śaṅku or hook, and lastly to apply traction by fixing it about the chest or axilla. If the head can not be perforated, it is to be applied to the eyes or cheeks.<sup>2</sup>

Traction hook for extraction of a dead foetus was well known to the ancients. Hippocrates<sup>3</sup> bids us break up the head of the foetus with a cephalotribe and remove the bones with bone forceps, or deliver it by a traction hook inserted near the clavicle. Celsus<sup>4</sup> advises us to insert a smooth hook with a short point and to fix it in the eye, or the ear, or the mouth, or the forehead, and so the foetus is to be dragged down. Soranus points out the best places for the insertion of the hook to be the eyes, the occiput, the mouth, the clavicles, and the

<sup>1</sup> नतोऽग्रे शङ्कुना तुल्यो गर्भं शङ्कुरितिस्यूतः ।

अष्टाङ्गुला यतस्तेन मूढगर्भं हरितुं स्त्रियाः ॥ १६ ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> तत्र स्त्रियमाश्रयस्य मण्डलाग्रेणाङ्गुलीशस्त्रेण वा शिरोविदाय्य शिरःकपालान्याहृत्य शङ्कुना गृहीत्वोरसि कक्षायां वापहरेदभिन्ने शिरसि चाचिकृटे गण्डे वा ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. xv.

<sup>3</sup> Hippocrates. II. 70.

<sup>4</sup> Celsus. VII. xxix.



ribs in head presentations; and the pubes, ribs, and clavicles in footling cases.<sup>1</sup> Soranus, Aetius<sup>2</sup> and Paul<sup>3</sup> direct us to extract the foetus in the same way but they recommend us to use two hooks instead of one, in order that the pulling may be straight down and not to one side.

Albucasis,<sup>4</sup> Rhases,<sup>5</sup> Haly Abbas,<sup>6</sup> and Avicenna<sup>7</sup> give similar directions for opening the child's head and for delivering the foetus with hooks.

This purpose in modern times is served by the blunt hook and crotchet.

#### YUJÑA-SĀṆKU OF MIDWIFERY FORCEPS.

An instrument is thus named and figured by modern writers on Hindu surgery, bearing some resemblance to the modern forceps, for extracting the child alive. We have, however, no mention of any such instrument in the works of Caraka, Suśruta Vāgbhata and other ancient authorities. The Greeks and Romans were also ignorant of it; and the Arabians fared no better, though Adams, in his commentary on Paul<sup>8</sup> asserts that Avicenna refers to forceps for the delivery of living children. Mulder, in his valuable work,<sup>9</sup> gives an extract from a translation from the works of Avicenna supporting

<sup>1</sup> Soranus. II. xix.

<sup>2</sup> Aetius. IV. iv. 23.

<sup>3</sup> Paul. VI. lxxix.

<sup>4</sup> Albucasis. Chirrug. II. 76 and 77.

<sup>5</sup> Rhases. Cont. xxii.

<sup>6</sup> Haly Abbas. Pract. ix. 57.

<sup>7</sup> Avicenna. iii. 21, i, 24.

<sup>8</sup> Paulus. Æginita. III. lxxvi.

<sup>9</sup> Historia Forcipum et Vecticum. p. 6.





the same conclusion. Smellie<sup>1</sup> says: "With regard to the fillets and forceps, they have been alleged to be late inventions; yet we find Avicenna recommending the use of both. The forceps recommended by Avicenna is plainly intended to save the foetus". "He recommends all the old methods for assisting in natural labours; and if the woman can not be delivered by these, he orders a fillet to be fixed over the head: if that can not be done, to extract with the *forceps*; and should these fail, to open the skull; by which means the contents will be evacuated, the head diminished, and the foetus easily delivered."<sup>2</sup> Playfair<sup>3</sup> also holds the same view. The point is however by no means settled. For Milne<sup>4</sup> says: "A full consideration of Avicenna's words seems to me to lead to the conclusion that he is describing no more than extraction with a craniotomy forceps. If the forceps fail, the child is to be extracted by incision, as in the case of a foetus already dead (and decomposed so that the forceps would not hold)."

Thus we may be sure that there is no available evidence of the use of delivery forceps by the Hindus, Greeks, Romans and Arabs; and the Chamberlens are still the undisputed claimants to the glory of the invention.

But there is no doubt that the Hindu surgeons tried extraction of the living foetus by manual traction. The hands are recommended to be well oiled and introduced into the uterus. If the child be dead, sharp instruments are advised to be intro-

<sup>1</sup> Smellie. Treatise on Midwifery, p. 40.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, Edited by McClintock. New Syd, Soc, vol. I. Introduction p. 50.

<sup>3</sup> Researches on Operative Midwifery, p. 10.

<sup>4</sup> Græco-Roman Surgical Instruments, p. 156.



duced into the vagina for cutting upon the foetus. But on no account such instruments are to be used so long as the child is alive.<sup>1</sup>

### SARPA-PAṆĀ OR SNAKE'S HOOD.

It is also called agra-bakra *i. e.* the end bent. It is a śaṅku or hook similar to the above, the end being bent like the hood of a snake.<sup>2</sup> It is to be used for the purpose of extracting stone after operation.

Suśruta, in the operation for extraction of stone through the perineal incision, directs us to use the agra-bakra to bring the entire stone out of the wound. But in the case of females, he recommends us to use a knife having a spoon like a scoop, to prevent the formation of a vesico-vaginal fistula.<sup>3</sup> Is it a spoon-shaped knife, or is it a double instrument on a handle—a knife at one end and a scoop at the other? The Greeks used a knife having a scoop at the end.

<sup>1</sup> गर्भे जीवति मूढं तु गर्भं यत्र न निर्हरेत् ।

हस्तेन सर्पिषाक्तेन योनेरन्तर्गतेन सा ॥

मृते तु गर्भे गर्भिण्या योनीं शस्त्रं प्रविश्येत् ।

शस्त्रशस्त्रार्थविदूषी लघुहस्ता भयोजिह्वता ।

सचेतनं तु शस्त्रेण न कथञ्चन दारयेत् ॥

Yogarātnākara, Muḍdhagarva Cikitsā.

<sup>2</sup> अशमर्याहरणं सर्पफणावदक्र अग्रतः ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā. I. xxv.

<sup>3</sup> यथा च न भिद्यते न चूर्ण्यते वा तथा प्रयतेत चूर्णसत्पमप्यवस्थितं हि पुनः परिद्विज्झिति तस्मात् समस्तामशवक्त्रेणाददीत । स्त्रीणाम् वस्तिपार्श्वगतो गर्भाशयः सन्निकृष्टः तस्मात्ता सामुत्सङ्गवच्छस्त्रं पातयेदतोऽन्यथा खत्वासां मूत्रसावी व्रणो भवेत् ।

Suśruta, Saṁhitā. IV. vii.





Celsus<sup>1</sup> describes the extraction of stone through a perineal section by means of the lithotomy scoop. "The scoop is slender at the end and flattened out in the shape of a semi-circle, smooth externally where it comes in contact with the tissue, rough internally where it meets the calculus". It was a long hook-like instrument.

Aetius<sup>2</sup> mentions a special stone extractor, under the treatment of calculus in the female. Some understand by it the lithotomy forceps.

In modern times we use the lithotomy forceps and scoop for the same purpose.

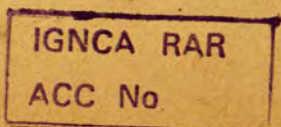
I take this opportunity of referring to the celebrated passage in the famous Hippocratic oath, which runs as follows: "I will not cut persons labouring under the stone, but will have this to be done by men who are practitioners of this art". This sentence has given a good deal of trouble to the commentators and they have failed to understand the true reasons as to why Hippocrates specially forbade the practice of this operation. "M. Littré finds some difficulty in accounting for the circumstance that the novice in surgery is interdicted from the operation of lithotomy." Adams,<sup>3</sup> commenting on the sentence, says: "Why this operation was proscribed, can not indeed be satisfactorily ascertained," and he quotes the Arab Physician, Avenzoar<sup>4</sup>, who "pronounces the operation to be one, which no respectable physician would witness, and far less to perform."

<sup>1</sup> Celsus. vii. xxvii.

<sup>2</sup> Aetius. IV. iv. 94.

<sup>3</sup> The Genuine Works of Hippocrates. Vol. II. P. 777—8.

<sup>4</sup> Avenzoar. II. 2, 7.



The explanation that this was proscribed because there were men who devoted themselves exclusively to this kind of treatment, and that if the qualified surgeons be allowed to practise the operation, they would interfere in the sphere of action of the lay lithotomists, cannot be considered satisfactory. For the question still remains the open one, why should Hippocrates proscribe this operation from the domains of scientific surgery, simply because a few laymen happened to practise it.

The real explanation is that in Hippocrates' time success in the operation was very difficult to achieve, consequently he interdicted the operation much in the same way as abdominal operations were considered sacred before the days of antiseptic surgery. It is curious to find that Suśruta calls this operation the worst of all surgical operations, for he says<sup>1</sup>: "Even experienced and able surgeons fail to attain success by operation for the stone. So the surgical treatment is the worst of all treatment here. But if you do not operate, the patient will die; and it is doubtful whether he will live after the operation; so give him the chance of operation in God's name." I do not know whether this passage of Suśruta has any causal relation to the remarks of Hippocrates, but there is no doubt that the former serves as a better commentary on the latter, than anything hitherto suggested.

Adams<sup>2</sup> says that this operation was practised by a class of men,

<sup>1</sup> कुशलास्यापि वैद्यस्य यतः सिद्धिरिहात्रु वा ।

उपक्रमो जघन्योऽयमतः स परिकीर्तितः ॥

अक्रियायां ध्रुवो मृत्युः क्रियायां संशयो भवेत् ।

तस्मादापृच्छ्य कर्तव्यमीश्वरं साधुकारिणा ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā. IV. vii.

<sup>2</sup> Commentary on Paulus Ægineta. Vol. II. P. 363.





separate from the surgeons, in all countries in ancient times, and points out that the ancient operation of lithotomy is still practised with great success by the native doctors of Hindusthan. No conclusion is, however, to be drawn from the modern practices in India, as we find separate classes of men not only for stone, but also for bone-setting, cataract, etc. And whatever may be the practice in modern times, we find that during Suśruta's time, the operation was not the privilege of the laymen.

### ŚARAPUṆKHA-MUKHA PROBE.

This instrument is also described to have its end bent like the hood of a snake. It is four aṅguli long and is recommended to be used for the purpose of extracting a tooth from its socket.<sup>1</sup>

Tooth elevator or instrument for levering teeth is mentioned by Galen.<sup>2</sup> It is of the same size as the bone lever which, according to Paul,<sup>3</sup> is seven or eight aṅguli long.

This instrument resembles in shape and action the tooth elevator of the modern surgeons.

### ARDHACANDRA-MUKHA ŚALĀ. HALF-MOON PROBE.

The first half of this variety of śalā is curved like a half-moon, to which is attached the second half as a rounded handle.<sup>4</sup> Suśruta advises us to use it for the purpose of applying actual

<sup>1</sup> शरपुङ्खमुखं दन्तपातनं चतुरङ्गुलम् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdya Saṁhitā. I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> Galen. xviii. 593.

<sup>3</sup> Paulus Ægineta. VI. cvi.

<sup>4</sup> शलाकासन्धवर्धनि ।

मध्योर्ध्वे वृत्तदण्डाच्च मूले चाङ्गुलसन्निभा ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā I. xxv.



cautery to the groin in bubonecele, to prevent the hernia from entering into the scrotum.<sup>1</sup>

A crescent-shaped cautery was also used by the Greek and Roman surgeons. So Paul<sup>2</sup> says that in cases of sloughing of the prepuce we must cut it off and use lunated cauteries to stop hæmorrhage and prevent the spreading of the wound. Again he mentions a cautery shaped like the Greek letter Γ, in the radical cure of hernia.<sup>3</sup>

#### BONE LEVER.

Instruments for levering fractured bones into their proper positions are mentioned several times by Suśruta. In the treatment of fracture of the nasal bones, a śalākā is recommended to be used as a bone lever for raising and depressing the fractured ends.<sup>4</sup> Sometime a muṣāla or pestle is advised to be used.<sup>5</sup> It is a thick wooden pestle the end of which is plaited with iron. It is still used to strike upon paddy to separate the husk from the rice. Suśruta mentions its use to reduce dislocations of the joints of the shoulder and neck.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> तत्र या वङ्गस्थिता ताः दहेद्वन्द्ववक्रया ।

सम्यग्मार्गावरोधार्थं कोशप्राप्तां तु वर्जयेत् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. xix.

<sup>2</sup> Paulus Aegineta. VI. lvii.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. VI. lxii.

<sup>4</sup> नासां सत्रां विवृतां वा ऋज्वीं कृत्वा शलाकया ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. iii.

<sup>5</sup> सन्नसन्नमयेत् खिन्नमचकम् मूषलेण तु ।

तथोन्नतं पीडयेच्च वध्नीयाद्वादमेव च ॥

Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> तैलपूष्ण कटाहे वा द्रोण्यां वा शाययेन्नरं ॥

मूषलेनोत्क्षिपेत् कक्षामांससम्बन्धं विसंहते ।

स्थानास्थितच्च वध्नीत स्वस्तिकेन विचक्षणः ॥

Ibid.





The pestle was also used by Hippocrates<sup>1</sup> to reduce dislocation of the shoulder joint. He says : "Those who accomplish the reduction forcibly bending it round a pestle, operate in a manner which is natural. But the pestle should be wrapped in a soft shawl (for thus it will be less slippery), and it should be forced between the ribs and the head of the humerus. And if the pestle be short, the patient should be seated upon something, so that his arm can with difficulty pass above the pestle. But for the most part the pestle should be longer, so that the patient when standing may be almost suspended upon the piece of wood. And then the arm and forearm should be stretched along the pestle, whilst some person secures the opposite side of the body by throwing his arms round the neck, near the clavicle"

The bone lever used by the Greeks is thus described by Paul :<sup>2</sup> "It is an instrument of steel about seven or eight fingers' breadth in length, of moderate thickness that it may not bend during the operation, with its extremity sharp, broad and somewhat curved."

#### DIRECTOR.

Suśruta<sup>3</sup> mentions the use of eṣaṇī or metallic probes not only to ascertain the course of the fistulous track but also to raise the bridge of skin covering the sinuses, so that the surgeon may operate on it as a guide. Cakradatta<sup>4</sup> also uses a probe to

<sup>1</sup> The Genuine Works of Hippocrates. Adams' Trans. p. 372.

<sup>2</sup> Paulus Ægineta, Vi. cvi.

<sup>3</sup> पक्षेषु चोपस्त्रिग्वधमवगाहस्त्रिंशं शय्यायां सन्निवेश्यार्शसनिव यन्त्रयित्वा भगन्दरं समीचा  
पराचीनमवाचीनं वा वह्निर्मुखमन्तर्मुखं वा ततः प्रणिधायैषणीमुन्नम्य साशयमुदरेच्छस्त्रेण  
Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. viii.

<sup>4</sup> नाड़ीनां गतिमन्विष्य शस्त्रेनापाद्य कर्मवित्।

Cakradatta, Nāḍivraṇa Cikitsā.



learn the direction of the wound before operation. It is also mentioned in the *Yogarātnākara*.<sup>1</sup>

In the treatment of *fistulæ*, Celsus<sup>2</sup> also says: "A director being inserted into them down to their termination, the skin ought to be incised." It is not mentioned that the *eṣaṇī* or probe was grooved, but there is no doubt of its use like a grooved director, so common nowadays. The discovery of such a director, along with several other surgical instruments, which are preserved in the *Musée de Cinquantenaire*, Brussels, proves that it was known to the Romans.

#### URETHRAL PROBE.

A variety of *śālākā* is described by *Suśruta*<sup>3</sup> to have its end rounded like the stalk of a *mālatī* flower (*Echites caryophyllata*, Rox.) It is to be used for cleaning the urethral canal.

*Caraka*<sup>4</sup> mentions a probe for examining the direction of the urethral canal and its pathological condition, before introducing the tube of the urethral or bladder clysters into it.

<sup>1</sup> नाडीनां गतिमन्वीक्ष्य शस्त्रेणोत्पाद्य कर्म्मवित् ।

*Yogarātnākara*, p. 346.

<sup>2</sup> Celsus, VII. iv.

*Græco-Roman Surgical Instruments*. p. 73.

<sup>3</sup> मृदुमार्गविशौधनार्थं एकं मालनीपुष्पवन्तायप्रमाणं परिसङ्कुलमिति ।

*Suśruta Saṁhitā*, I. vii.

<sup>4</sup> ऋजोः सुखोपविष्टस्य हटे मेद्रे घृतान्विते ।

शलाकयान्विष्य गतिं यद्यप्रतिहता व्रजेत् ॥

ततः शिफःप्रमाणेन पुष्पनेत्रं प्रवेशयेत् ॥

*Caraka Saṁhitā*, VIII. ix.





## Class VI. The Upayantra or Accessory Instruments.

The sixth class of the blunt instruments comprises the upayantra or accessory instruments. By surgical instruments, the Hindus consider not only the instruments proper, but also any mechanical aid by which the object of the surgical treatment is attained. Thus even medicinal agents are considered under this head for they help the inflammatory swellings to subside, or suppurate, or burst open as by various external applications. The accessory instruments are :

### 1. RAJJU OR THREAD.

As an example of thread being used as an instrument of surgery, we know that the thread smeared with caustics are recommended by Suśruta<sup>1</sup>—kṣāra sūtra or caustic thread—for the operation of fistula-in-ano. For further informations on the subject see “Eṣanī or sharp probes” under the Śastra.

Thread as a material of phalavarti or tent is mentioned by Śārṅgadhara.<sup>2</sup> If after a vaginal or intra-uterine douche, the injection does not flow out, he advises us to introduce a strong tent made of thread, dipped in oleaginous medicines of the

<sup>1</sup> कशदुर्वलभीरुणां नाडीमर्म्भयिताच या ।

चारसूत्रेन किन्द्यान्नतु शस्त्रेण बुद्धिमान् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV, xvii.

Cakradatta, Nāḍīvrāṇa Cikitsā.

<sup>2</sup> फलवर्त्तिं निदध्याद्वा योनिमार्गे दृढं भिषक् ।

सूत्रैर्दिनर्म्भितां सिग्धां शोधनद्रव्यसंयुताम् ॥

Śārṅgadhara Saṁgraha, III. vii



sōdhana (Purifier) group. Cakradatta<sup>1</sup> uses caustic threads in the treatment of piles by ligature.

## 2. VENIKĀ OR TWINE.

The use of twine as a ligature to be applied above the part bitten by a snake to arrest the circulation of blood towards the heart is mentioned by Suśruta.<sup>2</sup> Caraka<sup>3</sup> also advises us to tie ligatures above and below the bitten part, then to squeeze out the poison towards the wound, whence it is to be drawn out through incisions made by a knife.

## 3. PATTA OR BANDAGES.

For the proper application of bandages, Suśruta mentions the following materials to be necessary :<sup>4</sup> viz., cloth manufactured

<sup>1</sup> भावितं रज्ज्वनीचूर्णः स्नुहीचीरे पुनःपुनः ।

वन्धनात् सुदृढं स्रवं भिनत्ताशीं भगन्दरं ॥

Cakradatta, Arśaroga Cikitsā.

<sup>2</sup> सा तु रज्जादिभिर्वज्रा विषप्रतिकरीमता ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, V. v.

<sup>3</sup> दंशात् तु विषं दष्टस्य विस्त्रुतं वेणिकां भिषक् वद्धा ।

निष्पीडयेद्दंशं दंशमुद्धरेन्मर्मां वर्ज्जम् ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xxv.

<sup>4</sup> अत ऊर्ध्वं व्रणवन्धनं द्रव्याण्युपदेक्षामः । तद्यथा चौमकार्पासविकटुकूल कौशेय पत्रोर्ण चीनपट्टचर्मालव्येस्कलालावूशकललता विदलरज्जुतुलफलसन्तानिका लौहानौति तेषां व्याधि कालं चाविचोपयोगः प्रकरणतयैषामादेशः । तव कोशदामस्त्रिकानूवेक्षितप्रतोली-मण्डलस्थगिकायमकखट्वाचीनविवन्धवितानगोफणाः पञ्चाङ्गी चेति चतुर्दशवन्धविशेषाः ।

तेषां नामभिरैवाकृतयः प्रायेणव्याख्याताः । तत्रकोशमङ्गुष्ठाङ्गुलिपर्वसु विदध्यात् । दाम् सम्बाधेऽङ्गे । सन्धिकूर्ध्वकम्बूलनान्तरतलकणेषु स्त्रस्तिकां । अनुवेक्षितान्तु शाखामु, । शीवामिद्वयोः प्रतोलीं । वृत्तेऽङ्गे मण्डलं । अङ्गुष्ठाङ्गुलिमिद्वयेषु स्थगिकां । यमलव्रणयो र्यमकं । हनुशङ्खगण्डेषु खट्वां । अपाङ्गयोद्यीनं । पृष्ठदरीरःसु विवन्धं । मूर्डेणि वितानां चिबुकनासौष्ठां सवस्त्रिषु गोफणां । जवतुणऊर्ध्वं पञ्चाङ्गीमिति । यो वा यस्मिन् शरीरं प्रदेशे सुविविष्टो भवति तं तस्मिन् विदध्यात् ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. xviii.



from the fibres of plants, flax, cotton, wool, blankets, silk, leather, Chinese cloth, inner barks of trees, bark of bottle gourd (*Cucurbita lagenaria*), tendrils of twining plants, cane or pieces of split bamboo, rope, fruits as those of *Bombax Malabaricum*, blades of knives, and plates of metals as gold, or lead, or iron. These articles should be used with due consideration as regards the nature of the disease, the time of their use and the purpose in hand. He describes fourteen varieties of bandages as follows:—

1. *Kośa*:— a hollow cylinder or sheath to be applied to the joints of the thumb and fingers. This form of bandage is to be applied over the stumps after amputation of the limbs.

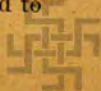
2. *Dāma* (*i.e.* tail of a quadruped?) :— it is a large bandage to be tied round a part for the relief of pain or cramps.

3. *Svastica* or a circular cross-bandage:— it is to be applied round the joints, the space between the tendons of the great and second toes, the intermammary region, the glabella (space between the eyebrows), the plantar surfaces of the feet, the palmer surfaces of the hands, and the ears. It is also the form of bandage recommended in dislocations of the shoulder joint.

4. *Anuvellita* or an encircling bandage :—it is to be applied to the limbs. This form of bandage is recommended to be applied to the limbs in cases of oblique, deep, and large cuts inflicted by a knife. A leather bandage applied in the form of *gophaṇā* would also serve the purpose. The encircling bandage is also advised in cases of fracture of the ribs.

5. *Protolī*:— a broad bandage for the neck and penis.

6. *Maṇḍala* or a circular bandage :— it is to be applied to



the round parts of the body such as the arms, sides, abdomen, thighs, and back.

7. Sthagikā or a supporter :— a bandage enclosing a splint and pastes of medicaments to keep the parts firm. It is to be applied over the ends of the thumb, fingers, and penis. Suśruta directs us to use this bandage round the scrotum after tapping the hydrocele.

8. Yamaka or a double-bandage :— a pair of circular bandages applied to a couple of ulcers on a part.

9. Khatvā or a four-tailed bandage :— it is recommended for the temples, cheeks and lower jaw.

10. Chīna or a banner bandage :— a bandage for the inner angles of the eyes.

11. Vivandhana or a circular chest-bandage :— it is the bandage for the back, abdomen and chest.

12. Vitāna or a canopy bandage :— a large bandage for the head.

13. Gophaṇā<sup>1</sup> (*lit.* a sling for throwing stones) :— a concave bandage for the chin, nose, lips, shoulders and pelvis.

<sup>1</sup> शाखासु प्रतितां स्तिर्यक् प्रहारान्विवृतान् भृशं ।

सौल्येत् सम्यग्विवेश्याय सन्ध्यस्थीन्यनुपूर्व्वशः ॥

वद्धा वेङ्गितकेनाय ततस्तैलिन सचयेत् ।

चर्मणा गोफणावन्धः कार्यो यो वा हितो भवेत् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. ii.

पादौ निरस्तमुष्णस्य जलेन प्रोक्ष्य चाक्षिणी ।

प्रवेश्य तुन्नसेवन्त्या मुष्कौ सौवित्तः परं ॥

कार्यो गोफणिकावन्धः कक्ष्यासावेश्य यन्त्रकं ॥



14. Pañcāṅgī or a five-tailed bandage<sup>1</sup> :— it is intended for the parts above the clavicle, as in the dislocations of the lower jaw. Caraka<sup>2</sup> mentions a bandage called kavalikā, to be tied tightly after setting a fracture or reducing a dislocation. It is so-called from the medicinal paste which is applied to the affected parts, underneath the splints.

Dunghlison mentions a bandage called Accipitar to be applied over the nose. It is so called from its likeness to the claws of a hawk. It resembles the pañcāṅgī bandage of the Hindus.

So the bandages are recommended to vary according to the different parts of the body ; and the surgeon, using his discretion, is to select the form of bandage suitable to the part. The bandages are recommended to be firmly secured to their place by three strings, applied upwards, downwards and obliquely. The knot is avoided over the seat of ulcer and tied on a side.

Suśruta says : “Bandages are applied with three degrees of tightness according to the seat of the abscess :—  
1. A tight bandage causes uneasiness but not actual pain ;  
2. A loose bandage is loose and relaxed ; 3. An even bandage is properly applied—neither tight nor loose.  
The tight bandage is to be applied to the buttocks, sides of the abdomen, axilla, groin, chest and head. The eyes and joints

<sup>1</sup> हन्वस्थिनी समानीय हनुसन्धौ विसंहते ।

स्वेदयित्वा स्थिते सम्यक् पञ्चाङ्गौ वितरेद्विषक् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. iii.

<sup>2</sup> अस्थिभग्नं च्युतं सन्धिं संदधौत समं पूनः ।

समेन समसङ्गेन कृत्वान्येन विचक्षणः ॥

स्थिरैः कवलिकावन्धैः कुशिकाभिर्य संस्थितम् ।

पट्टैः प्रभूत सर्पिष्कैर्वध्नीयादवलं सुखं ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xiii.



are loosely bandaged. The even bandage is for the extremities, face, ears, neck, penis, scrotum, back, sides, and abdomen."<sup>1</sup>

Suśruta next deals with the alterations in the mode of applying bandages according to the rules laid down. He also advises the surgeon to be guided by the dictates of his common sense. He directs us to practise bandaging on the various large and small limbs of a human figure made of cloth or clay.<sup>2</sup>

With regard to the mode of application of bandages, Hippocrates says:<sup>3</sup> "It should be done quickly, without pain, with ease and with elegance, . . . . it should fit well and neatly. The forms of it are the simple, the slightly winding (called *ascia*), the sloping (*sima*), the monocus, the rhombus, and semi-rhombus".

The whole chapter of Suśruta is very interesting and will repay perusal. If bodily transferred, it will adorn any modern text book on surgery.

As it is very difficult to convey a correct idea of these bandages in words, I have given figures of them from modern works on surgery, from which their construction and uses will be readily understood at a glance.

<sup>1</sup> तत्र व्रणायतनविशेषादन्व विशेषस्त्रिविधो भवति गाढः समः शिथिल इति ।

पीडयन्नरुजो गाढः सोच्छासः शिथिलः स्मृतः ।

नैव गाढो न शिथिलः समोऽन्वः प्रकीर्तितः ।

तत्र स्निग्धं कुचं कक्षावङ्गणोरः शिरः सुगाढः । शाखावदनं कर्णकण्ठमेतद्सुष्कपट्टपार्श्व-  
दरस्सु समः । अक्षोः सन्निधौ च शिथिल इति ।

Suśruta Samhitā, I. xviii.

<sup>2</sup> पुस्तकं पुरुषाङ्गं प्रत्यङ्गविशेषेषु बन्धयोग्यं ।

Ibid, I. ix.

<sup>3</sup> The Genuine Works of Hippocrates, Vol. II, P. 477. Syd. Soc. Ed.



## ABDOMINAL BINDER.

Caraka<sup>1</sup> mentions the use of abdominal binder for the recently delivered woman to prevent derangement of air by its expansion in her abdomen.

Dr. Barnes says:<sup>2</sup> "The sudden expulsion of one-tenth of the body-weight from the abdominal cavity is attended by a sudden removal of a force hitherto pressing upon the vessels and organs of the chest, abdomen, and pelvis. This entails in some cases a tendency to vacuum. Hence disturbance of the circulation. Now the binder, by supporting the abdominal walls, restores the equilibrium of pressure. The pressure exerted upon the uterus works as a gentle continuous stimulus to contraction. The woman is conscious of the support and is grateful for it. . . . . The figure, so precious, and rightly so, to women, is better preserved . . . . So applied, the binder becomes one of the most efficient agents in antiseptic midwifery; it keeps the walls of the uterus and vagina in contact, thus preventing the collection of fluids or clots, and shutting out air".

The use of cloth for other surgical purposes is also mentioned :—

## FIELD HOSPITAL.

The cloth is to be used for the manufacture of tents for the doctors to live in. The wounded in war are to be treated in such tents. The tent of the surgeon-general should be close to that of the king in the battle-field.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> वेष्टयेदुदरं महता वाससा तथा तस्या न वायुरुदरे विकृतिसुत्यादयस्त्यनवकाशत्वात् ।

Caraka Saṁhitā, IV. viii.

<sup>2</sup> Obstetric Medicine and Surgery, Vol. II. p. 87.

<sup>3</sup> स्कन्धावारि च महति राजगृहेऽद्वान्तरं ।

भवेत् सन्निहितो वैद्यः सर्वोपकरणान्वितः ॥



Small tents are also recommended for applying vapour bath to patients.

### DRESSINGS.

Dīḍhavaḷa<sup>1</sup> mentions the use of medicated gauzes to be used as sponge by the females and says : "In discharges from the vagina, pieces of cloth soaked in decoction of barks of Vata (*Ficus Bengalensis*) and Lodha (*Symplocos racemosa*) and dried, should be put inside the canal."

In the Mohāvāgga<sup>2</sup> we find the use of itch-cloth :—  
"I allow, O Bhikkhus, to whomsoever has the itch, or boils, or a discharge, or scabs, the use of an itch-cloth".

"According to the 90th Pakittiya such cloth must not be more than four spans in length and two in breadth."

I can not help quoting from Mohāvāgga,<sup>3</sup> another discourse of Buddha as it shows clearly the surgical treatment of boils in ancient times :—

Now at that time a certain Bhikkhu had boils.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of the lancet".

Decoctions of astringent herbs were required.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, decoctions of astringent herbs".

Sesamum salve was required.

तवस्थमेनं ध्वजवदशः ख्यातिं समुच्छ्रितं ।

उपसर्पन्त्यमोहेन विषशल्यामयर्हि ताः ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. xxxiv.

<sup>1</sup> न्ययोधलक् कषायेण लोभ्रकल्कं तथा पिवेत् ।

आस्त्रावे चौमपट्टं वा भावितं तेऽनुधारयेत् ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xxx.

<sup>2</sup> Mahāvāgga, VIII. 17, 2.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. VI. 14, 4 & 5.





"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of sesamum salve".

5. Compresses were required.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of compresses."

It was necessary to tie up the sore with cloth.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of bandages for tying up wounds".

The sore itched.

"I allow you, O Bhikkhus, the sprinkling of a sore with mustard-powder".

The sore became moist.

"I allow you, Bhikkhus, to fumigate ( the sore )."

Proud flesh formed on the wound.

"I allow you, O Bhikkhus, to cut off ( proud flesh ) with a lancet".

The wound would not close up.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of oil for wounds".

The oil ran over.

They told this thing to the Blessed One.

"I allow, O Bhikkhus, the use of fine rags, and of all kinds of ways of treating wounds".

If the object of fumigating the sore was to sterilize it, as it certainly was, we may take this dialogue as the best sketch of the scientific treatment of boils,—remembering that it represents the knowledge of surgery more than 2500 years ago.

Cakrapāṇi advises us to tie the ends of the hairs of a patient, by a piece of cloth,<sup>1</sup> before performing phlebotomy on the vessels of the head and neck.

<sup>1</sup> मृदुपद्मात्तकेशान्त्तो जानुस्थार्पितकर्परः ।



## 4. CARMA OR LEATHER.

The use of leather in ancient medical practice in India was manifold.

## Leather bandage.

Straps or belts of leather were used as bandages. Suśruta<sup>1</sup> advises us to apply the leather bandage in cases where more than half the thickness of the upper or lower extremities are cut by some sharp instruments in a slanting direction. Then the parts of the wound should be well adjusted, the bone and the soft parts kept in apposition, and the wound closed by sutures and well covered by dressings, over which the leather bandage is to be applied in the form of a gophaṇā or sling.

Leather bandage in the form of gophaṇā is mentioned by Suśruta<sup>2</sup> to be applied over the anus to prevent recurrence of proidentia of the rectum. The prolapsed bowl should be well bathed with ghee and fomented; and then reduced by gentle pressure. There should be a hole in the bandage just in front of the anus to allow flatus to pass out. Vṛnda<sup>3</sup> alludes to it. Similarly the modern surgeons use a pad supported by a bandage as an aid in

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note 1, P. 178.

<sup>2</sup> गुदभंशे गुदं खिन्नं स्नेहाभ्यक्तं प्रवेशयेत् ।

कारयेद्गोफणावन्धं मध्यच्छिद्रेण चर्मणा ॥

Suśruta Samhitā, IV. xx.

<sup>3</sup> गुदभंशे गुदं स्नेहैरभ्यज्याऽथ प्रवेशयेत् ।

प्रविष्टं स्वेदयेत्तपि बद्धं गोःफणया भृशम् ॥

गोःफणयेति । गोःफणा वन्धविशेषः ।

उक्तं हि:—उच्चारनिर्गमाथ सच्छिद्रेण चर्मणा चास्य गोःफणावन्धः कार्य इति ॥

Vṛndamādhava or Sidhhayoga, Ch. 57.





preventing descent of the gut. It is mentioned also in the Cakradatta<sup>1</sup> and the Yogaratnākara.<sup>2</sup>

Dr̥dhavala mentions the use of a piece of untanned leather to be applied over a layer of ointment during the day, while during the night the leaf of Eraṇḍa (*Ricinus communis*) is directed to be used.<sup>3</sup>

#### LEATHER LIGATURES.

In the treatment of snake-bite, a ligature is advised to be used above the seat of injury to stop the circulation of poisoned blood. This ligature is advised to be made of leather, or braided fibres of trees, or soft cord of jute, etc.<sup>4</sup>

#### YANTRA-ŚĀṬAKA. LITHOTOMY STRAP OR BINDING APPARATUS.

This is the name of the leather shackle, which is recommended to be used during the operation for stone in the bladder. The patient should flex his knees and elbows; and the parts are to be

<sup>1</sup> गुदभंशे गुदं स्नेहैरभ्यन्याऽऽय प्रवेशयेत् ।

प्रविष्टे स्वेदयेच्चापि वज्रं गोःफणया दृढम् ॥

Cakradatta, Kṣudraroga Cikitsā.

<sup>2</sup> गुदभंशे गुदं स्निग्धं स्नेहेनाक्तं प्रवेशयेत् ।

प्रविष्टं रोधयेद्यवाद्रव्यसच्छिद्रं चर्मना ॥

Yogaratnākara, P. 343.

<sup>3</sup> एरण्डपत्रैः प्रच्छाद्य रात्रौ कल्मषं विमोचयेत् ॥

चौराम्बूषा ततः सिक्तं पुनश्चैवोपनाहितम् ।

मुञ्चेद्रात्रौ दिवावज्रं चर्मभिय सुलोमभिः ॥ ८४ ।

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xxviii.

<sup>4</sup> सर्वैरेवादितः सर्पैः शाखादष्टस्य देहिनः ।

दंशस्थोपरि वध्नीयादरिष्टायतुराङ्गुलि ॥

प्लोतचर्मनान्तं-वल्कानां मृदुनान्यतमेन च ।

न गच्छति विषं देहमरिष्टाभिर्निवारितं ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, V. v



tied together by this instrument.<sup>1</sup> Similarly, it is to be used during the operation for piles; but then, according to Suśruta,<sup>2</sup> the neck and thighs are to be tied by the instrument which is to be held firmly by the assistants. Vāgbhaṭa<sup>3</sup> uses cloth instead of leather.

Yantra-śāṭaka is also to be used during the operation of phlebotomy. Suśruta says<sup>4</sup>: "If venesection is required to be done, the patient is to be seated on a stool, an aratni high (from the elbow to the end of the little finger), facing towards the sun. The thighs are to be flexed, the two elbows to be placed over the knees, and the hands (the fingers being clenched into fists) to be fixed on the two sides of the neck. The two ends of the shackle which pass over the fists, are held up at his back by the left hand of an assistant, who with his right hand steadily (neither forcibly nor loosely) presses above the part selected, to make the veins prominent, and at the same time rubs on the back to

<sup>1</sup> सङ्कुचितजानुकर्पूरमितरेण सहाववद्धं स्वेण शाटकैर्वा ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. vii.

<sup>2</sup> वस्त्रकम्बलकोपविष्टं यन्त्रशाटकेन परिवर्तितं ग्रीवासकयंपरिकर्मिभिः सुपरिगृहीत-  
मस्यन्दनशरीरं कृत्वा ।

Ibid, IV. vi.

<sup>3</sup>

अथ यन्त्रेण वाससा ।

सकथं शिरोधरायाञ्च परिचितं सज्जस्थितम् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, IV. viii.

<sup>4</sup> तत्र व्यध्यतिरं पुरुषं प्रत्यादित्यसुखमरविमाचोक्षिते उपविश्यासने सकथ्योराकुञ्चितयो-  
निर्विष्य कर्पूरसम्बिन्दवयोपरि हस्तावन्तर्गुदाङ्गुष्ठकृतमुष्टी मन्वयोः स्थापयित्वा यन्त्रशाटकं  
ग्रीवासुख्योरपरि परिविज्यात्येन पुरुषेण पयात्स्थितेन वानहस्तेनोत्तानेन शाटकान्तर्ध्वं ग्राहयित्वा  
ततो वैद्यो ब्रूयाद्विषहस्तेन सितोत्थानमाद्यं नायायतमिधित्वं यन्त्रमाविष्टयेत्यसृक्स्वावषाथे  
यन्त्रं पृष्ठमथ्ये च पीडयेति कर्मगुणञ्च वायुगुणञ्च स्थापयेदेव उत्तमाङ्गगतानामन्तर्मुख-  
वर्ज्यानां सिराणां व्यधेन यन्त्रविविधः ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, III. viii.



stimulate bleeding, the patient being then told to inflate his mouth with air forcibly. This is the method of binding for puncturing the veins of the head except those (veins) which have their mouths turned inside the body". Vāgbhaṭa describes a similar procedure in bleeding from the vessels of the neck<sup>1</sup>.

The Greeks also used ligatures to tie up the arms and legs of a patient in the lithotomy position. Paul<sup>2</sup> says: "In operating, the woman should be placed on a seat in a supine posture, having her legs drawn up to the belly, and her thighs separated from one another. Let the arms likewise be brought down to her legs and secured by proper ligatures about the neck".

In modern times, similarly, we use lithotomy straps or crutch, after placing the patient in the lithotomy position during the operation of lithotomy and excision of piles.

### PĀŚĀ.

This is a different shackle to be used for binding insane persons.<sup>3</sup>

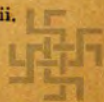
- <sup>1</sup> अग्नितापातपन्निग्धो जानूच्चासन संस्थितः ।  
 मृदुपद्माक्षकेशान्तो जानुस्थपित कूर्परः ॥  
 मुष्टिभ्यां वस्त्र गर्भाभ्यां मन्थे गाढं निपीडयेत् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxvii.

- <sup>2</sup> Paul. VI. lxxiii.

- <sup>3</sup> भीमाकारैर्नरैर्नागैर्दालैर्व्यालैश्च निर्विधैः ॥  
 भीषयेत् सततं पाशैः कशभिर्व्याध ताडयेत् ।  
 यन्त्रयित्वा सुषुप्तं वा चासयेत्\* दण्डाग्निना ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, VI. lxxii.



## ABDOMINAL BINDER.

The use of cloth binder has been described before<sup>1</sup>. Leather binder is to be used after the operation of paracentesis abdominis to apply pressure over the abdomen. After draining the fluid of ascites, the abdomen of the patient should be well wrapped with blankets, or silk cloth, or leather binder, for then the abdomen would not be flatulently distended by air.<sup>2</sup>

## LEATHER BAGS.

The use of leather in the formation of bags of the vasti-yantra has been described before<sup>3</sup>.

## ŚĪRO-VASTI. LEATHER BAG FOR THE HEAD.

For application of oil on the head, Suśruta<sup>4</sup> directs us to use a goat's bladder filled with medicated oil, just in the same way as ice bags are used nowadays.

Śārṅgadhara<sup>5</sup> describes another variety of śīro-vasti: "It is

<sup>1</sup> See P. 181.

<sup>2</sup> निःसृते च दोषे गाढतरमाविक काशिय चर्मणामखतमेन परिवेष्टयेदुदरं तथा नाभापयति वायुः ॥

Suśruta Samhitā, IV. xiv.

<sup>3</sup> See P. 129-30.

<sup>4</sup> ऋज्वासीनस्य वध्नीयाद् वस्त्रिकोषं ततो दृढं ।

Ibid, VI. xviii.

<sup>5</sup> शिरोवस्तिविधिश्चात्र प्रोच्यते सुज्ञसम्मतः ।  
शिरोवस्तिश्चर्मणः स्याद्विसुखो दादशाङ्गुलः ॥  
शिरःप्रमाणं तं वद्धा मस्तके माषपिष्टकैः ।  
सन्निरोधम्विधायादौ स्नेहैः कोणैः प्रपूरयेत् ॥  
सावत् धार्यस्तु यावत् स्यान्नासानेचसुखं च तः ।  
बेदनोपशमो वापि मावाणां वा सहस्रकम् ॥

Śārṅgadhara Saṅgraha, III. xi.





made of leather, has a length of twelve *āṅguli* and has two orifices or mouths. The leather bag is to be well tied round the head, the junction of the circumference of the bag and the skin should be well pasted with *māṣa* (*Phaseolus Rox*) glue. Then the cavity thus formed is to be filled with hot oily medicine. This is to be retained until the headache is relieved." *Cakra-*datta<sup>1</sup> also mentions it. The bag is described to be sixteen *āṅguli* high in the *Yogarātnākara*<sup>2</sup>. *Vāgbhaṭa*<sup>3</sup> advises us to use leather of a cow or buffalo, and it is said to have been twelve *āṅguli* broad.

#### LEATHER BAND.

In phlebotomy, a band is advised to be applied above the spot where the vein is to be punctured. This band is recommended to be made of cloth, or jute, or leather, or barks of

<sup>1</sup> आशिरो व्यायतं चर्मं कृत्वाटङ्गुलमुच्छ्रितम् ॥

तेनाविध्य शिरोऽधस्तान्माषकल्केन लिपयेत् ।

निश्चलस्थोपविष्टस्य तेलैरुष्णैः प्रपूरयेत् ॥

*Cakradatta, Śīro-roga Cikitsā.*

<sup>2</sup> आशिरो वापितचर्मं षोडशाङ्गुलमुच्छ्रितम् ।

तेनाविध्य शिरोऽधस्तान्माषकल्केन लिपयेत् ॥

*Yogarātnākara, P. 402.*

<sup>3</sup> विधिसस्य निषण्णस्य पीठे जानुसमे सदौ ।

शृङ्गाक्षिन्नदेहस्य दिनान्ते गव्यमाहिषम् ॥

द्वादशाङ्गुलविस्तीर्णं चर्मपट्टं शिरः समम् ।

आकर्णं बन्धनं स्थानं ललाटे वस्त्रं वेष्टिते ।

चैलवेणिकया बद्धा माषकल्केन लिपयेत् ॥

ततो यथाव्याधिः शृतं स्नेहं कोष्णं निषेचयेत् ।

ऊर्ध्वं केशभूवो यावद्वाङ्गुलं धारयेच्च तम् ॥

*Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxii.*



trees, or tendrils of twining plants<sup>1</sup>; and it should not be applied either too tight or too loose. As for example, in phlebotomy in the foot, the yantra-sāṭaka or ligature should be applied below the knee-joint, while the band is to be tied round, at a distance of four aṅguli above the part selected for the operation.<sup>2</sup> Vāgbhata<sup>3</sup> says: "In phlebotomy, a band is to be tied round the upper extremity, four aṅguli above the spot selected for opening the vein which is to be made prominent by pressing it upwards with the closed fist." Cakradatta<sup>4</sup> also quotes it. Vāgbhata<sup>5</sup> recommends us to use a cloth band to be tied round the leg, four aṅguli above the spot selected for opening the vein in the leg.

This band corresponds to the band of Antyllus used by the Greeks. Antyllus applies a ligature of two fingers'

<sup>1</sup> गावं वडोपरि दृढं रज्ज्वा पट्टेन वा समम् ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxvi.

वस्त्रपट्टचर्मालव्वल्कललतानामन्यतमेन यन्वयित्वा नातिगाढं नातिशिथिलं शरीरं प्रदेशमासाद्य यथोक्तं शस्त्रं गृहीत्वा सिरां विधेत् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, III. viii.

<sup>2</sup> तत्र पादव्यध्यसिरस्य पादं समेस्थाने सुस्थिरं स्थापयित्वा न्य पादभीषत्सङ्कुचितमुच्चैः कृत्वा व्यध्यपादं जानुसन्धेरधः शाटकेनावध्य इत्याभ्यां प्रपीड्य गुल्फं व्यध्यप्रदेशस्योपरि चतुरङ्गुलम् ज्ञोतदौनामन्यतमेन वज्रां पादासिरां विधेत् ॥

Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> विध्येद्वस्तुशिरां बाह्यावनाकुक्षित कूर्परे ।

वह्ना सुखोपविष्टस्य सुष्टिमङ्गुष्ठ गर्भिनीम् ।

ऊर्ध्वं वेध्यप्रदेशाच्च षट्पङ्कां चतुरङ्गुले ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxvii.

<sup>4</sup> Cakradatta, Śīra-vyādhādhikāra.

<sup>5</sup> पादे तु सुस्थितेऽधस्ताज्जानु सन्धेर्निपीडिते ।

गाढं कराभ्यामागुल्फं चरणे तस्य चोपरि ॥

द्वितीये कुक्षिते किञ्चिदारूढे हस्तवत्ततः ।

वह्ना विध्येत् सिरामित्यमनुक्तेष्वपि कल्पयेत् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxvii.



breadth round the arm in bleeding at the elbow, while to bleed at the ankle, the band is to be applied at the knee. It is mentioned as fillet in the pseudo-Hippocratic treatise on Ulcers;<sup>1</sup> and Oribasius<sup>2</sup> gives an interesting dissertation on the subject, principally condensed from the works of Herodotus, Antyllus and Galen. Paul<sup>3</sup> also ties a narrow band round some muscular part of the arm before abstracting blood from the inner part of the elbow. "Wherefore we must tie a narrow band around some muscular part of the arm, and having by friction of the hands upon one another produced the necessary fulness of the vein, we divide it transversely, but only along its breadth."

#### LEATHER BOTTLES, JARS, MAṢAKA, etc.

Leather was used in the manufacture of bottles and jars. Leather maṣaka for honey, Soma juice, and dadhi (curdled milk), is mentioned in the R̥gveda<sup>4</sup> and also in the Laws of Manu where

<sup>1</sup> Ulcers, iii. 328.

<sup>2</sup> Med. Collect., vii, Phlebotomy.

<sup>3</sup> Paulus Ægineta, Adam's Trans, Bk. VI. Sec. XL.

<sup>4</sup> इतिरेव तेऽहकमस्तु सख्यं ।

अच्छिद्रस्य दधन्तः सुपूर्णस्य दधन्तः ॥

R̥gveda, 6 M. 48 S. 4 A. 8 Ch. 18 v.

यो ह वां सधुनो इतिराहितो रयचर्षणे ।

ततः पिवतमन्विना ॥

Ibid, 8 M. 5 S. 5 A. 8 Ch. 19 v.

उच्छिष्टं चन्वीर्भर सोमं पवित्र आ सज ।

नि घेहि गोरधि त्वचि ॥

Ibid, 1 M. 28 S. 1 A. 2 Ch. 9 v.

एष सोमो अघि त्वचि गवां क्रौडव्यद्रिभिः ।

इन्द्रं मदाय जोडुवत् ॥

Ibid, 9 M. 66 S. 7 A. 2 Ch. 29 v.



it is called *drti*<sup>1</sup>. Leather *maṣaka* or inflated skins were in use as swimming bladders, and we have a representation of "figures with garlands in their hands, swimming and disporting themselves, supported on *maṣaks* or inflated skins."<sup>2</sup> In the *Rgveda*, *Agastya* in his spell to neutralise poison, says:<sup>3</sup> "I deposit the poison in the solar orb, like a leather bottle in the house of a vendor of spirits."<sup>4</sup> Dr. Mitra points out that "other *smṛtis* ordain that oleaginous articles preserved in leather bottles do not become impure by the contact of the impure cowhide ; and in the present day, jars of that material are in extensive use in Bengal and the North-West Provinces for the storage of oil and ghee. In the latter place, leather bags are universally used for raising water from wells, and

रुवति भीमो वषभस्तविष्यया शङ्के शिशानो हरिणी विचक्षणः ।

आ योनिं सोमः मुक्तं नि वीदति गव्ययो लग्भवति निर्णिगव्ययौ ॥

*Rgveda*, 9 M. 70 S. 7 A. 2 Ch. 7 v.

एष स्य भानुरुदियति युज्यते रथः परिज्मा दिवो अस्य सानवि ।

पृचासो अस्मिन्मिथुना अधि चयो दृतिस्तूरीयो मधुनो वि रप्शते ॥

*Ibid*, 4 M. 45 S. 3 A. 7 Ch. 1 v.

See Wilson's *Rgveda*, II. 28.

<sup>1</sup> इन्द्रियाणां तु सर्वेषां यद्येकं चरतीन्द्रियम् ।

ततोऽस्य चरति प्रज्ञा दृतेः पादादिवोदकम् ॥

*Manu Samhitā*, II. 99.

"But when one among all his organs fails, by that single failure his knowledge of God passes away, as water flows through one hole in a leathern bottle."

*Ibid*, Jones' Translation.

<sup>2</sup> Pl. xxxi. fig. 1. Fergusson's *Tree and Serpent Worship*, P. 127.

<sup>3</sup> सूर्ये विषमा सज्जामि दृतिं सुरावतो गृहे ।

*Rgveda*, 1 M. 191 S. 2 A. 5 Ch. 10 v.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*. Wilson's Translation.





according to the law books of Śaṅkha and Likhita,<sup>1</sup> that water is declared pure which is kept in old leather bottles”<sup>2</sup>. To this may be contrasted the prevailing Hindu notion that water is defiled if touched by a Brāhmana in his shoes. Though the leather is not allowed to be a material of dress of the Hindus, except his shoes which are considered as unclean, leather belts formed one of the eight sacred utensils necessary for a śramaṇa of the Buddhist order ; and in the Manu Saṁhitā<sup>3</sup> we find the students of theology advised to “wear for their mantles, the hides of black antelopes, of common deer, or of goats.”<sup>4</sup>

#### 5. ANTARVALKALA. THE INNER BARKS OF TREES.

Barks of trees are recommended to be used as splints for the support of fractured bones. In fractures of bones of the foot, leg and thigh, Suśruta directs us to use splints made of barks of trees<sup>5</sup> to surround the limbs. In the treatment of a simple fracture, Bhāva Miśra advises us to use cold water first, then mud is to be applied, and lastly the fractured bones should be secured

<sup>1</sup> आपो रूपवदगन्धवत्यः परिशुद्धं जीर्णचर्मकरण्डकेवभ्युज्जताः ।

चर्मकरण्डः चर्मपुटः ।

Śaṅkha and Likhita.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. R. C. Mitra's Indo-Aryans. vol. II.

<sup>3</sup> कार्णरीरववास्तानि चर्माणि ब्रह्मचारिणः ।

वसीरन्नानुपूर्वेण शाणक्षौमाविकानि च ॥

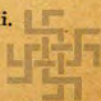
Manu Saṁhitā, II. 41.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. Sir Wm. Jones' Translation. II. 41.

<sup>5</sup> अथ्यज्य सर्पिषापादं तलभम् कुशीत्तरं ।

वस्त्रपट्टेन वस्त्रीयान्नच व्यायाममाचरेत् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. iii.



by splints and bandages.<sup>1</sup> In the *Yogarātnākara*<sup>2</sup>, we are advised to treat fractures, by lowering the raised end and elevating the depressed end of the bone, and then by using splints and bandages to keep them in position. *Bhāva Miśra*<sup>3</sup> describes it similarly after *Suśruta*. *Suśruta* directs us to use barks of *Vata* (*Ficus Indica*, Rox.) and bamboo strips as splints to support the neck after reducing its dislocation by holding at the temporo-maxillary articulations on the sides and the occipital protuberance on the back, and raising him up in the air. He should lie down with his head raised for seven days<sup>4</sup>. In modern times, the Sayre's suspension apparatus and jury mast serve the same purpose.

The barks of *Madhuka* (*Bassia latifolia*), *Aśvattha* (*Ficus religiosa*), *Kukubha* (*Terminalia arjuna*), *Polāśa* (*Butea frondosa*, Rox.), *Udumbara* (*Ficus glomerata*, Rox.) bamboo, *śāla* (*Shorea robusta*), *Vata* (*Ficus Indica*, Rox.) are mentioned as

<sup>1</sup> आदौ भग्नं विदित्वा तु सेचयेच्छीतलागुना ।

पङ्कनालिपनङ्कार्यं वन्धनञ्च कुशान्वितम् ॥

*Bhāva Prakāśa*, II. iii. *Bhagnādihikāra*.

<sup>2</sup> पङ्कनालिपनं कुर्याद्वन्धनं च कुशान्वितम् ।

अवनामितमुद्राम्योदुन्नतं चावपौडयेत् ॥

क्षिप्तं विधाय च स्थाने संस्थाप्य विधिमाचरेत् ॥

*Yogarātnākara*, P. 345.

<sup>3</sup> अवनामितमुद्राद्युदुन्नतञ्चावपौडयेत् ।

आच्छेदतिक्षिप्तमधोगतञ्चोपरि वर्त्तयेत् ॥

*Suśruta Saṁhitā*, IV. iii.

*Bhāva Prakāśa*, II. iii. *Bhagnādihikāra*.

<sup>4</sup> अवटावथहन्वोश्च प्रष्टच्छोद्रमथेन्नरं ।

तथा कुशान् समंदत्वा वस्त्रपट्टेन वेष्टयेत् ।

उत्तानं शाययेच्चैनं सप्तरात्रमतन्द्रितः ॥

*Suśrutā Saṁhitā*, IV. iii.





supplying the materials of splints<sup>1</sup>. Bhāva Miśra<sup>2</sup> adds Kadamba (Anthocephalus cadamba), Hijjala (Barringtonia acutangula), Sarjja (Pinus longifolia) to the list. Such splints are called kuśa, and Vāgbhaṭa<sup>3</sup> says that the splints should be broad, thin, pliant and clean.

Dr. Jacobi, of Dublin, says that he has seen an excellent splint made from the "fresh bark of a tree, taken off while the sap is rising". "It fits admirably", says he, "just like paste-board soaked in water"<sup>4</sup>. Dr. C. C. Jewet<sup>5</sup> recommends for the same purpose the bark of leriodendron, or tulip tree.

### THE CRUTCHES.

The crutches were used to help the crippled. In the Vajasaṁhitā of the White Yajurveda, there is a passage describing the different kinds of human victims, appropriated to particular gods and goddesses. The passage occurs also in the Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa with slight differences. There we

- <sup>1</sup> मधूकोदुम्बराश्लथ पलाशः ककुभलचः ।  
वंशसर्ज्जं वटानां वा कुशार्थमुपसंहरत् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. iii.

- <sup>2</sup> मधूकोदुम्बराश्लथः कदम्बः निचुललचः ।  
वंशसर्ज्जं ज्जुनानाञ्च कुशार्थमुपसंहरत् ॥

Bhāva Prakāśa, II. iii. Bhagnādhikāra.

- <sup>3</sup> कदम्बोदुम्बराश्लथसर्ज्जं पलाशजैः ।  
वंशोद्वै वां पृथुभिस्तनुभिः सुनिवेशितैः ॥  
सुशृङ्गैः सुप्रतिस्तम्भैर्वैल्कलैः शकलैरपि ।  
कुशाह्वयैः समं वन्धं पट्टस्थोपरि योजयेत् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, VI. xxvii.

<sup>4</sup> Hamilton's Fractures and Dislocations. 5th Ed. P. 50-51.

<sup>5</sup> The 20th Mass. vols.



find "to the two (deities) who preside over the gains above or below one's expectation (utkula and vikula), a cripple, who can not move even with the help of a crutch" is recommended to be sacrificed. And again "to the divinity of land, a cripple who moves about on a crutch."<sup>1</sup>

The use of the sound limb as a splint of support for the fractured bone of the opposite side was well known. Wooden splints resembling in shape the injured member are also recommended. Suśruta says<sup>2</sup> that if the hand be fractured, it is to be tied with the opposite hand, but in fractures of both the hands, Gayadāssa<sup>3</sup> recommends a wooden hand to be used as a splint for both. After union of the fractured bones, the hands should be made to hold balls of cow-dung, mud and stones.

#### 6. LATĀ OR CREEPERS (TENDRILS OF).

The tendrils of creepers as materials of ligature are mentioned

<sup>1</sup> उत्कुलविकुलाभ्यां ( उत्कुलविकुलीभ्यः ) विस्थिन' ।

भृत्ये पीठसर्पिनमालभते ।

Taittirīya Brāhmaṇa.

Quoted in Mitra's Indo-Aryans. vol. II. P. 84—85.

<sup>2</sup> उभे तले समे कृत्वा तलभग्नस्य देहिनः ।

वध्नीयादामतेलिन परिषेकञ्च कारयेत् ।

प्राग् गोमयमयं पिण्डं धारयेन् मृगस्यं ततः ।

हस्ते जातवलीचापि कुर्यात् पाण

॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. iii.

<sup>3</sup> गयोतु उभेऽपि हस्ततले तदेकस्य भङ्गे वामं दक्षिणेन दक्षिणं वामेन, उभयोस्तुभङ्गेन तत्समेन, काष्ठमयेन कृत्वा इ अपि वध्नीयादेवं दाञ्जः भवतीति, मृत्पिण्डादिधारणमात्मकम् प्राप्त्यर्थम् ।

Quoted in Dallana's Commentary, IV. iii.



by Suśruta. He recommends<sup>1</sup> to give up a patient, bit by a snake, as hopeless when he does not respond to the application of stimuli, such as cold water, tendrils of creepers, etc. Vāgbhaṭa<sup>2</sup> advises us to introduce the stalk of the lotus, with a thread tied to it, inside the throat to extract any foreign body stuck there. When the soft stalk is touched by the śālya, it should be extracted by the sudden withdrawal of the stalk and thread.

#### 7. VĀSTRA OR CLOTH.

Cloth<sup>3</sup> as a material of bandages, tents, gauze, etc. has been described before<sup>4</sup>.

#### 8. AṢṬHĪLAŚMA. STONE OR PEBBLE.

It is a piece of stone—long and round. It is advised to be used for moving arrows fixed in the bone<sup>5</sup>. Caraka<sup>6</sup> advises us to strike two pieces of stone against each other to resuscitate a

- <sup>1</sup> अजीर्णं पित्तातपं पोडितेषु बालप्रमेहेष्वथ गर्भिणीषु ।  
 वृद्धातुराक्षीणवृद्धेषु रुद्धेषु भौरुष्वथ दुर्दिनेषु ॥  
 शस्त्रक्षते यस्य न रक्तमस्ति राज्योलतामिदं न सम्भवन्ति ।  
 शोताभिराङ्गि न रोम हर्षो विषाभिभूतं परिवर्ज्यते ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, V. iii.

- <sup>2</sup> कण्ठस्रोतो गते शल्यं सूत्रं कण्ठे प्रवेशयेत् ।  
 विसेनात्ते ततः शल्यं विसं सूत्रं समं हरिन् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxviii.

- <sup>3</sup> वस्त्रं प्रसिद्धं तूलकं सूत्रनिर्मितं वेष्टनार्थं प्रयुज्यते ॥

Vāgbhatārtha Kaumudī, I. xxv.

- <sup>4</sup> See P. 176-83.

- <sup>5</sup> अश्मप्रस्तरखण्डं शस्त्रपीडनार्थं निर्घातनाच्च युज्यते ॥

Ibid.

- <sup>6</sup> अश्मनोः संघटनं कर्णयोर्मुले शोतोदकीनौषोदकीनं वा सुखपरिष्कृतं ।

Caraka Saṁhitā, IV. viii.



still-born child. In bleeding from the veins of the neck, Vāgbhata<sup>1</sup> advises the patient to hold firmly two pieces of stones in their hands.

A piece of stone is to be used by a person, for holding it with his hand, after recovery from fractures of the carpal and metatarsal bones<sup>2</sup>.

In ancient times, in India, the kings used to decorate themselves with antidotary gems, as a safeguard against poisons.<sup>3</sup> Even now the snake charmers apply a black stone on their bodies where they are wounded by the venomous reptile. This stone is popularly known as the vi-a-pāthara or poison-stone, and is supposed to have the property of extracting poison from the body.

#### 9. MUDGARA. HAMMER.

Suśruta directs us to use a hammer or a piece of stone to strike an arrow firmly fixed in the bone, until loosened, when it can be conveniently extracted by means of a pair of forceps<sup>4</sup>. It should be pointed out that the tubular instrument—salya

<sup>1</sup> पाषाणगर्भहस्तस्य जानुष्ये प्रसृते भूजे ।

कुचेरारम्य सृदिते विध्येदङ्गोर्दंष्ट्रके ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxvii.

<sup>2</sup> See foot-note. 2. P. 196.

<sup>3</sup> विषवैरुदके स्नातो विषघ्नमणिभूषितः ।

परीक्षितं समग्रीयाग्याङ्गुलाविद्विषमृतः ॥

Kāmandakīya Nīṭisāra, Ch. vii. v. 10.

रचितो गङ्गुरीद्वार मणिर्यस्य विभूषणं ।

स्थावरं जङ्गमं तस्य विषं निर्विषाणं ब्रजेत् ॥

<sup>4</sup> अस्थिदेशोत्खिप्त मष्ठीलास्यमुद्गराणामन्यतमस्य प्रहारिण विचार्य यथामार्गमेव ।

Suśrutā Saṁhitā, I. xxvii.



nirghātānī—described before<sup>1</sup>, served the same purpose. Vāgbhāṭa also uses a hammer<sup>2</sup> to shake an arrow fixed in the bone, and directs us to extract it with the hands or by the various kinds of forceps<sup>3</sup>.

The Greeks used some iron instrument to shake such an arrow from the place where it was lodged. The hammer was also used by the Greeks and Romans but in a different capacity. Paul mentions its use in cranial surgery to strike the lenticular and gouge<sup>4</sup>. Paul and Celsus describe a “method of extracting foreign bodies from the ear by laying the patient on a board and striking the under side with a mallet.”<sup>5</sup> Vāgbhāṭa describes this method for draining out water from the ear.<sup>6</sup>

#### 10. PĀNIPĀDATA. THE PALM OF HAND AND SOLE OF FOOT.

#### 11. AṄGULI OR FINGERS.

The surgeon's hand is considered by Suśruta to be the principal instrument as the use of all other instruments depends

<sup>1</sup> See P. 111.

<sup>2</sup> सुद्धराहतया नाड्या निर्घात्योत्तुण्डितं हरित् ।

तैरेव चानयेन्मार्गमार्गोत्तुण्डितं तु यत् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxviii.

<sup>3</sup> अथाहरित् करप्राप्य करणैवेतरत् पुनः ।

दृश्यं सिंहाहिमकरवर्मिं कर्कटकाननैः ॥

अदृश्यं व्रणसंस्थानाद गृहीतुं शक्यते यतः ।

कङ्क भङ्गाच्च कुरर शरारी वायसाननैः ॥

Ibid.

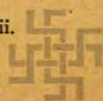
<sup>4</sup> Paulus Ægineta VII. xc.

<sup>5</sup> Milne, Graceo-Roman Surgical Instruments, p. 125.

<sup>6</sup> कर्णेऽग्रे पूर्णे हस्तेन मथित्वा तैलवारिणी ।

चिपेदधोमुखं कर्णं हन्याद्वा चूषयेत् वा ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxviii.



upon it<sup>1</sup>. But again he mentions the hand and foot as accessory to, or substitutes for, the instruments. Longmore<sup>2</sup> says: "Of all instruments for making a complete examination of a gun-shot wound as well as for exploring for foreign bodies which may be lodged in it, the finger of the surgeon is the most appropriate, whenever a wound is large enough to admit of its insertion." There are many instances of the use of hand and foot in the treatment of surgical diseases but I shall point out a few of them.

1. Both Suśruta<sup>3</sup> and Cakradatta<sup>4</sup> say that "if a swelling be hard but slightly painful, then it should be well fomented, pressed and rubbed by a piece of bamboo, or palm of the hand, or thumb to cause its subsidence. Bhāva Miśra also quotes this verse<sup>5</sup>. Suśruta<sup>6</sup> and Vāgbhaṭa<sup>7</sup> recommend a similar treatment for enlarged glands.

<sup>1</sup> See foot note, P. 90.

<sup>2</sup> Longmore, Gun-shot Injuries, 1877, P. 319.

<sup>3</sup> अभ्यज्य स्वेदयित्वा तु वेणुना वा शनैः शनैः ।

विमर्दयेद्भिषक् प्राञ्जललिनाङ्गुष्ठकेन वा ॥

Suśruta Samhitā, IV. i.

<sup>4</sup> अभ्यज्य स्वेदयित्वा च वेणुनाद्याततः शनैः ।

विम्लापनार्थं मृत्नीयात् तलिनाङ्गुष्ठकेन वा ॥

Cakradatta, Vraṇaśoṭha Cikitsā.

<sup>5</sup> अभ्यज्य स्वेदयित्वा तु वेणुनाद्या शनैः शनैः ।

विमर्दयेद्भिषक् मन्दललिनाङ्गुष्ठकेन वा ॥

Bhāva Prakāśa, II. iii.

<sup>6</sup> हृतेषु दोषेषु यथानुपूर्व्यं यथै भिषक् श्लेष्म समुत्थिते तु ।

सिन्नस्य विम्लापनमेव कुर्यादङ्गुष्ठलोहोपलवेण दण्डैः ॥

Suśruta Samhitā, IV. xviii.

<sup>7</sup> संस्वेद्य बहुशोथयि विमृत्नीयात् पुनः पुनः ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Samhitā, VI. xxx.





2. Suśruta says<sup>1</sup> that “when a morsel of food sticks in the throat, a blow should be fearlessly struck with the fist on the shoulder of the patient without his knowledge”. Vāgbhaṭa<sup>2</sup> also describes it.

It is however curious to find that exactly the same procedure was adopted by Alsaharavius. Adams in his commentary<sup>3</sup> on Paul says that “when a morsel of food sticks to the œsophagus, Alsaharavius directs that the person should be struck on the back, which will facilitate the descent of it”.

3. In the reduction of dislocation of the lower jaw, Caraka used his fingers to do it exactly in the same way as recommended by the modern surgeons. He directs us to depress the lower jaw by the thumbs and at the same time to raise the chin by the index fingers<sup>4</sup>. The verses are quoted by Cakradatta.<sup>5</sup> The description of the method, quoted from any modern text book, would be a good commentary on the above passage of Caraka. Erichsen says<sup>6</sup>: “The reduction is best effected, by the surgeon,

<sup>1</sup> यासशल्येत् कण्ठासक्ते निःशङ्कमनवुद्धस्त्वन्वे सुष्टिनाभिहन्वात् स्नेहं मद्यं पानीयम् वा पाययेत् ।

Suśruta Samhitā, I. xxvii.

<sup>2</sup> अप्यान स्तम्बघाताभ्यां यासशल्ये प्रवेशयेत् ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Samhitā, I. xxviii.

<sup>3</sup> Adam's Commentary on Paulus Ægineta, VI. xxxii.

<sup>4</sup> व्याप्तानने हतुं स्निग्धमङ्गुष्ठाभ्यां प्रपीड्य च ।

प्रदेशिनीभ्याञ्चोन्नम्य चित्तुकोन्नमनं हितं ॥

स्रस्तां सङ्गमयेत् स्थानं स्तब्धं स्निग्धं विनामयेत् ।

प्रत्येकं स्थानदृष्ट्यादिक्रिया वैशेष्यमाचरेत् ॥

Caraka Samhitā, VI. xxviii.

<sup>5</sup> Cakradatta, Vāṭabyādhi Cikitsā.

<sup>6</sup> Surgery, Vol. II, p. 658.



standing before the patient, placing his thumbs, well protected by napkins, or a few turns of a narrow bandage, on the molar teeth on each side, and then depressing the angles of the jaw forcibly, at the same time that he raises the chin by means of his fingers spread out and placed underneath it."

4. Caraka says<sup>1</sup>: "After pairing her nails and covering the tip of her index finger with cotton, the nurse is to clean the palate, lips and throat of the new-born child".

With this passage we may compare what Barnes says on the point<sup>2</sup>. "The attendant having then placed the child close to the mother, so as to avoid any strain on the cord, should cleanse its mouth from any fluids, such as blood and mucus, it may have partially swallowed during its passage through the vagina. This should be done at once, as such fluids drawn into the lung vesicles may give rise to inflammation of the lungs, or even septicæmia."

5. Susruta<sup>3</sup> recognises "six modes of diagnosing diseases, namely by the five senses *i.e.* by hearing, smell, taste, sight and touch, and by questions. "Symptoms discernible by the sense of touch are coolness or heat, smoothness or roughness, softness or hardness, and other tangible qualities of the skin in fever, dropsy,

<sup>1</sup> अथास्य तालोष्ठकण्ठजिह्वाप्रमार्ज्जनमारभेत अङ्गुल्यामुपरिलिखितनखया सुप्रचालितो-  
पधानकार्पासपिचुमत्या प्रथमं प्रमार्ज्जितस्यास्य च शिरस्तालु कार्पासपिचुना स्नेहगर्भेन प्रति-  
च्छादयेत् ।

Caraka Samhitā, IV. viii.

<sup>2</sup> Obstetric Medicine and Surgery, Vol. II, p. 105.

<sup>3</sup> षड्विधो हि रोगाणां विज्ञानोपायः । तद्यथा पचभि श्रोत्रादिभिः प्रश्नेन चेति ।

\* \* \* \* स्पर्शनेन्द्रियविज्ञेयाः शीतोष्णश्च कर्कशमृदु कटिनत्वादयो ज्वरशोफादिषु ।

Susrutā Samhitā, I, x.



and other diseases.” And we know how important it is to educate the tactile sense in the diagnosis of diseases.

6. The foot is recommended to fix a part of the human body whence any foreign body may be removed easily by the hands.<sup>1</sup> Suśruta says<sup>2</sup>: “If a foreign body cannot be easily extracted, as when it is impacted in the hollow or the substance of a bone, the part should be pressed by the feet, and it should be drawn out by the instrument.” Vāgbhaṭa also gives a similar description<sup>3</sup>. Caraka describes a method of removal of the placenta if not spontaneously separated. One of the female attendants should press upon the navel of the puerpera forcibly with her right hand, while with the left hand placed upon her back, she should shake her. Then the heel is to be placed on the patient's buttock while the two sides of the gluteal regions are also to be pressed and shaken<sup>4</sup>.

## 12. JIHVĀ OR TONGUE.

The organ of taste as a means of diagnosis is noted by

<sup>1</sup> पाद इति पादेन शरीरदेशं धृत्वा हस्तादियन्त्रेण उद्धरणादि क्रियते ।

Vāgbhaṭa-ārtha Kaumudī, I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> अस्थिविवरप्रविष्टं अस्थिविदष्टं वाऽवगृह्य पादाभ्यां यन्त्रेणापहरेत् ।

Suśruta Samhitā, I. xxvii.

<sup>3</sup> अस्थिदृष्टं नरं पदभ्यां पीडयित्वा विनिर्हरेत् ।

इत्यश्वको सुवलिभिः सुगृहीतस्य किङ्करैः ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Samhitā, I. xxviii.

<sup>4</sup> तस्याश्चेदमरा न प्रपन्ना स्यादथैनान्मृतमा स्त्री दक्षिणैः पाणिना नाभेरुपरि दृढलवत् निपीड्य सव्येन पाणिना पृष्ठत उपसंगृह्य सुनिर्द्धृतं निर्द्धृत्यात् । अथास्याः पादपार्श्व-श्रीणीमाकोटयेदस्याः स्निचावुपसंगृह्य सुपीडितं पीडयेत् ।

Caraka Samhitā, V.



Suśruta<sup>1</sup>. "Symptoms discernible by the sense of taste are the various tastes noticeable in morbid secretions of urine and other diseases". Ākrapāṇi "explains that 'inference' is necessary, because the sense of taste can not be exercised by the physician on the patient directly;"<sup>2</sup> he must do it through some intermediate agents such as ants, whose attraction to sugar is well-known and so the presence of sugar in urinary diseases can be inferred."

### 13. DANTA OR TOOTH.

Ivory as a material of surgical instruments has been described before<sup>3</sup>. Suśruta<sup>4</sup> advises us to use the ash of ivory with stibium as a stimulant to the growth of hair on a scar. It is also recommended by Vāgbhaṭa<sup>5</sup>.

### 14. NAKHA OR NAILS.

Suśruta advises the surgeon to use his nails<sup>6</sup> for the operation of cutting, piercing and extraction, if these can be possibly helped by his nails.

In modern times, nails often help the surgeons in separating

<sup>1</sup> रसनेन्द्रविज्ञेयाः प्रमेहादिषु रसविशेषाः ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. x.

<sup>2</sup> Hoernle's Commentary on the Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. x. (Bibliotheca Indica).

<sup>3</sup> See page 67.

<sup>4</sup> हस्तीदन्तमसीं कृत्वा मुख्यैव रसाञ्जनं ।

रोमाण्येतेन जायन्ते लेपात् पानितलेष्वपि ॥

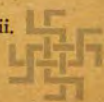
Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. i.

<sup>5</sup> तैलाक्ता हस्तिदन्तस्य मयी वा चौषधं परम् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, VI. xxiv.

<sup>6</sup> आहार्यच्छेद्यभेदेषु नखं शक्येषु योजयेत् ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. viii.





layers of tissues during operation as in the operation for the radical cure of hydrocele. We often extract thorns, impacted in our body, with our nails.

### 15. MUKHA OR MOUTH.

The use of mouth as a suction apparatus was well known to the ancients. Suśruta advises us to use ārā or pāṇimantha (awl) to perforate bone in diseases of the medullary canal, caused by obstructed and deranged air. He next introduces one end of a tube, open at both ends, into the canal through the perforation in the bone, while through the other end the surgeon sucks out air by his mouth<sup>1</sup>. The use of mouth for sucking out air through the śrīga or horn has been described before<sup>2</sup>. Caraka says<sup>3</sup> that the poison of a snake-bite may be sucked out by the surgeon's mouth, filled with flour or ash. Even in modern times, it is common amongst Indians to suck out blood, in accidental cuts by knives, by the mouth. The practice of the suckers in Europe has been noted before<sup>4</sup>.

### 16. VĀLA OR HAIR.

Horse-hair is to be used for applying ligatures round the piles<sup>5</sup>. It is also a material of suture for the skin. Horse-hair is also described to have been used for raising pterygium. Paul<sup>6</sup> also used horse-hair to raise a pterygium.

<sup>1</sup> निरुद्धेऽस्थनि वा वायौ पाणिमन्थेन दारिते ।

नाडीं दत्तास्थनि भिषक् चूषयेत् पवनं वली ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. iv.

<sup>2</sup> See P. 148-49.

<sup>3</sup> दंशं वा चूषेन्मुखेन यवचूर्णपांशुपूर्णम् ।

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xxv.

<sup>4</sup> See P. 149-50.

<sup>5</sup> वालाः, अन्त्रादीनां पूच्छभवकेशा नृकेशाश्च अर्शो वाल्यादि वन्धनार्थं युज्यते ।

Vāgbhaṭārtha Kaumudī, I. xxv.

<sup>6</sup> Paulus Ægineta, VI. xviii.



Suśruta<sup>1</sup> says: "Bundles of hairs or tents are to be used in the treatment of wounds in the skull, formed by the extraction of an arrow from the brain. These would prevent the hernial protrusion of the cerebral substances from passing out through the wound. The hairs are to be removed one by one, as the wound heals up gradually." Vāgbhata<sup>2</sup> also approves this treatment.

A bundle of hairs tied to a long thread is mentioned by Suśruta to have been used for the extraction of fish-bones from the throat<sup>3</sup>. The patient is directed to swallow the ball of hairs with some liquid. Next emetics are to be administered to excite vomiting. During this act, the foreign body gets entangled in the meshes of the ball, which being then suddenly pulled out by the thread outside, extracts the fish-bone satisfactorily. Vāgbhata<sup>4</sup> also describes it similarly. For this purpose

<sup>1</sup> शिरसोऽपहृते शल्ये बालवर्त्तिं प्रवेशयेत् ।

बालवर्त्त्यामदत्तयां मस्तुलुङ्गं ब्रूयात् सवेत् ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. ii.

<sup>2</sup> कार्या शल्याहते विडे भङ्गादिदलिते क्रिया ।

शिरसोपहृते शल्ये बालवर्त्तिं प्रवेशयेत् ॥

मस्तुलुङ्गसुते क्रुद्धो हन्यादेनं चलोऽन्यथा ।

ब्रूये रोहति चैकैकं शनैरपनयेत् कचम् ।

मस्तुलुङ्गसुतौः खादेन्मस्तिष्कानन्यजीवजान् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, VI. xxvi.

<sup>3</sup> अस्थिशल्यमन्यद्वा तिर्यक्कण्ठासक्तमवेचा केशेषुकं दृढैकं सूत्रवद् द्रवभक्तीपहितं पययेदाकण्ठाच्च पूर्णकोष्ठं वामयेदमतश्च शल्यं कदेशसक्तं जाला सूत्रं सहसा त्वाचिपेत् ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. xxvii.

<sup>4</sup> कोशोन्दुकेन पीतेन द्रवैः कण्टकमाचिपेत् ।

सहसा सूत्रवहेन वमत स्तेन चैतरत् ॥

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxviii.





a tooth brush formed by chewing the end of a narrow branch of a tree is also recommended<sup>1</sup>. A common domestic remedy is to make the patients swallow large morsels of boiled rice, plantain, etc.

Paul<sup>2</sup> mentions a similar contrivance, and says: "Some are of opinion that the patient ought to be made to swallow large morsels, such as stalk of lettuces or pieces of bread; but others direct us to bind a thread about a small piece of clean soft sponge and give it to the patient to swallow, and then taking hold of the thread to draw it up, and to do this frequently in order that the thorn may get fixed in the sponge and be brought up". For this purpose Aetius used the epilation forceps. Paul calls it *acanthobolus* or the fish-bone forceps.

The modern surgeons use a probang for the same object. "Small sharp bodies, such as bristles, fish-bones, or pins, are generally found sticking between the pillars of the fauces and the tonsils." Such bodies "should not be pushed on, but an endeavour should be made to catch them with the "horse-hair probang." This being pushed gently, unexpanded, beyond the point where the pin or bone is stuck, is expanded by pulling up the handle and then withdrawn with a slight rotatory motion."<sup>3</sup>

Caraka<sup>4</sup> mentions the practice amongst the recently delivered

<sup>1</sup> मृदुना वा दन्तधावनकुञ्जकेनापहरेत् ।

*Suśruta Samhitā*, I. xxvii.

<sup>2</sup> Paulus Ægineta, VI. xxxi.

<sup>3</sup> Swain's *Surgical Emergencies*, 3rd ed., Pp. 32-33.

<sup>4</sup> अथास्या बालवेष्ट्या कण्ठतालु परिश्रयेत् ।

*Caraka Samhitā*, IV. xviii.



women to push a braid of her hair into her throat, to help the expulsion of the placenta. So in the *Yogaratnākara*<sup>1</sup>, her throat is advised to be rubbed by a finger surrounded by hairs. This practice is still prevalent among the women of Bengal to a certain extent.

### SUTURE MATERIAL.

Horse-hair was the material used by the Hindus for sutures. Besides it, they used<sup>2</sup> sutures of fine thread, or the fibres of the bark of *Aśmantaka* (*Cæsalpina digynia*), or threads made of hemp or flax, or of the fibres of which bow-strings were made, or of the fibres of the *Mūrvvā* (*Sansevieria zeylanica*) or *Guḍūcī* (*Tinspora cordifolia*). Besides these, the Hindu surgeons used the mouth parts of the ants as clasps to close incisions on the intestines. *Suśruta*<sup>3</sup> describes the use of living black ants to close the incisions on the walls of the intestines, during the operation for intestinal obstruction, after removing the scyballi, stones, etc. He advises us to remove the bodies of the ants, leaving their heads fixed on the margins of the incision,

<sup>1</sup> केशवेष्टित्याङ्गुला तस्याः कण्ठं प्रघर्षयेत् ।

*Yogaratnākara*, P. 437.

<sup>2</sup> सीव्येत् सूक्ष्मेण सूत्रेण वल्केनाश्रमन्तकस्य वा ।

सनजचीमसूत्राभ्यां स्नाय्वा वालिन वा पुनः ॥

मूर्वागुडुचीतानैर्वा ।

*Suśruta Saṁhitā*, I. xxv.

स्नाय्वा सूत्रेण वल्कलेः ।

सीत्येन्न दूरे नासन्ने गृहान्नालं न वा बहु ॥

*Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā*, I. xxix.

<sup>3</sup> परिस्त्राविण्मध्यवर्मेव शल्यमुद्धृत्यान्वस्त्रावान् संशोध्य तच्छिद्रमन्त्रं समाधाय कृष्ण-  
पिपीलिकाभिर्दृश्येत् दष्टे च तासां कायानपहरेन्न सिरांसि ततः पूर्व्ववत् सीव्येत् ।

*Suśruta Saṁhitā*, IV. xiv.



in the act of biting. Then the intestines should be replaced with the ants' heads sticking to them. Caraka<sup>1</sup> also describes the use of ants for obliteration of small perforations in the intestines, but he takes away the ants before replacing the gut into the abdominal cavity. If by any accident, the abdominal muscles be incised and the intestines come out of a gaping wound, Suśruta recommends us to allow black ants to bite the exposed coils of intestines before replacing them into the abdomen<sup>2</sup>. This is a curious practice of ancient surgery of the Hindus. The Greeks and Arabs never mentioned it. "Amongst some Indian tribes, it is customary to allow both edges of a wound to be seized by the sharp head-nippers of certain ants, whose bodies are then rapidly cut off; one ant after another being used, the wound is closed."<sup>3</sup>

Suśruta describes four sorts of sutures, *viz*:

1. Vellitaka or winding.
2. Gophanikā or like a sling.
3. Tunna sevanī or continued sutures.
4. Rjugranthi or interrupted sutures.

<sup>1</sup> क्खिद्राण्यन्तस्य तु स्थूलैर्दंशयित्वा पिपीलिकैः ।

बहुशः संगृहीतानि मत्वा च्छित्त्वा पिपीलिकान् ।

प्रतियोगैः प्रवेश्यान् बहिः सौख्येद् व्रणं ततः ॥

Caraka Saṁhitā, VI. xviii.

<sup>2</sup> अभिन्नमन्त्रं निष्क्रान्तं प्रवेश्यं नान्यथा भवेत् ।

पिपीलिकाशिरीयसं तदाप्येके वदन्ति तु ॥

प्रचाल्य पयसा दिग्धं ढणशोणितं पांशुभिः ।

प्रवेशयेत् कृत्तनखो घृतेनाक्तं शनैः शनैः ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, IV. ii.

<sup>3</sup> Neuburger's History of Medicine. Playfair's Translation, Vol. I., P. 9



These are advised to be so applied as they may suit the different parts of the body<sup>1</sup>. The needles must not be introduced either too far from, or too close to the edges of the wound. In the former case, the lips of the wound shall be inflamed and so cause pain, while in the latter, the sutures will give way<sup>2</sup>.

The use of horse-hair as a material for suturing wounds was unknown to the Greeks and Romans. They used sutures of flax and woollen threads for wounds. Paul says: "Afterwards we unite the separated parts with a needle containing a woollen thread, being satisfied with two sutures."<sup>3</sup> Celsus<sup>4</sup> advises us to use sutures of soft thread; and the apollinose of Hippocrates<sup>4</sup> is directed to be made of crude flax.

#### 17. AŚVAKAṬAKA. THE RING OF A HORSE'S BRIDLE.

Suśruta says that when the arrow is firmly fixed in the bone and if it can not be extracted by forcible pulling by hands or instruments, it should be tied to the ring of a horse's bridle. Then the animal is to be whipped, when by the sudden movement of the horse, the weapon would be jerked out of the wound<sup>5</sup>.

#### 18. ŚĀKHĀ OR BRANCH OF A TREE.

Another method is to tie such an arrow by means of a rope

<sup>1</sup>

सीव्येदेक्षितकं शनैः ।

सीव्येक्षोफणिकां वापि सीव्येद्वा तुन्नुमेवनीं ।

अनुयन्त्रिमथो वापि यद्ययोगमथापि वा ॥

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. xxv.

<sup>2</sup> Paulus Ægineta, VI. xii. Adam's Translations.

<sup>3</sup> Celsus, V. xxvi.

<sup>4</sup> Hippocrates, iii. 132.

<sup>5</sup> अथवक्रकटके वा वध्नीयादथैनं कशया ताडयेद्यथोन्नमयन् शिरोवेगेन शल्यमुद्धरति ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. xxvii.



to the branch of a tree, lowered by pressure<sup>1</sup>. When the pressure is released, the branch suddenly goes high up, and thereby it pulls the weapon out of the wound<sup>2</sup>. Dallana, however, mentions another view that a bridle-ring and a branch of a tree are both required for the extraction of foreign bodies<sup>3</sup>. Hœrle remarks: "The branch apparently is put through the ring to afford a stronger pull"<sup>4</sup>. Vāgbhaṭa<sup>5</sup> also mentions these contrivances.

### 19. ŚTHĪVANA OR SPITTLE.

Dallana<sup>6</sup> understands by it—"throwing out expectoration and saliva by the mouth." By this means any foreign body lodged in the oral cavity, such as in the gums, fauces, may easily be got rid of.

<sup>1</sup> दृढां वा वृक्षशाखामवनम्य तासां पूर्ववदवहोद्वरेत् ।

Suśruta Saṁhitā, I. xxvii.

<sup>2</sup> शाखा, वृक्षशाखा, वहायास विनमितायां शाखायां शल्यायभागं दृढं वद्धा, सहसा शाखात्यागेन उच्छ्रितया शाखया शल्यमुत्प्रियते ।

Vāgbhaṭārtha Kaumudī, I. xxv.

<sup>3</sup> अन्ये त्वेवं पठन्ति अशक्यमेवं वा बलवद्भिः सुपरिगृहितस्य यन्त्रेणैव याहयित्वा शल्य-  
मावर्जं प्रविभूज्य धनुर्गुनैर्व्वहैकतःशाथाश्वक्ककटके वध्नीयात् । अथैनम् इत्यत्र कारकेक  
पाठः कश्या ताडयेत् यद्योन्नमयन् शिरोवेगेन शल्यमुद्वरेति, नमितायां पञ्चाङ्गां वृक्षशाखायां  
व पूर्ववद वहोद्वरेदिति ॥

Nivandha Saṁgraha, I. xxvii.

\* The Suśruta Saṁhitā, Bibliotheca Indica. P. 48. foot note 109.

<sup>4</sup> तथाप्यशक्ये वारङ्गं वक्रौकृत्य धनुर्जया ।

सुवर्जं वक्रकटके वध्नीयात् सुसमाहितः ॥

सुसंयतस्यः पञ्चाङ्गा बाजिनः कशायय तम् ।

ताडयेदिति मूर्ध्नां वेगेनोन्नमयन् यथा ॥

उद्वरेच्छल्यमेवं वा शाखायां कल्पयेत्ततोः ।

Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya Saṁhitā, I. xxviii.

<sup>6</sup> स्त्रीवणं श्लेष्मादिनिरसनम् ।

Nivandha Saṁgraha, I. vii.



## 20. PROVĀHANA OR FLUXING THE PATIENT.

This comprises the acts of emesis, purgation and lacrymal secretion. Thus the foreign bodies lodged in the alimentary canal or eyes may be got rid of by causing discharges from the bowels, the stomach, or the eyes<sup>1</sup>.

## 21. HARṢA OR OBJECTS EXCITING HAPPINESS.

Persons suffering from vṛāṇa or wound are directed to have their minds in a state of cheerfulness by the sight of objects exciting happiness<sup>2</sup>. A cheerful man is a better subject for a surgical operation than a morose and gloomy one. Vāgbhaṭa<sup>3</sup> adds fear as an accessory instrument. Joy and fear cause a sudden change in the temper of a man and so may be of some help in curing diseases<sup>4</sup>. Suśruta regards, sorrow as a śalya or foreign body which is to be removed by joy.<sup>5</sup>

## 22. AYASKĀNTA OR LOAD-STONE.

Magnet was known to the ancient Hindus<sup>6</sup> and they used it

<sup>1</sup> तवायुचवयूद्धार कास मूत्र पूरीषानिलैः स्वभाववल्गुप्रवृत्ते नयनादिभ्यः पतति ।

Suśruta Sāṃhitā, I. xxvii.

<sup>2</sup> सुहृदो विचित्रपन्थाय कथाभिर्ब्रणवेदनाः ।

आश्वासयन्तो बहुशस्त्रनुकूलाः प्रियम्बदाः ॥

\* \* \* \*

सम्पदायनुकूलाभिः कथाभिः प्रीतिनानसः ।

आशावान् व्याधिमोक्षाय क्षिप्रं सुखमवाप्नुयात् ॥

Suśruta Sāṃhitā, I. xix.

<sup>3</sup> See foot-note 1, P. 98.

<sup>4</sup> भय हर्षौ शरीरस्य सहसा भावान्तरमुत्पादयन्तौ यन्त्रकार्यं कुरुत इति ।

Vāgbhaṭārtha Kaumudī, I. xxv.

<sup>5</sup> हृदयवस्थित मनेक कारणीतृपन्नं शोकशल्यं हर्षयेति ।

Suśruta Sāṃhitā, I. xxvii.

<sup>6</sup> मणिगमनं सूच्यभिसर्पणमदृष्टकारणकं ।

Vaiśeṣikā Darśanam, Ch. V. Āhnika 15.