

ninth villages and hamlets. Ports and landing places are called *Batu*.¹

A similar classification of governors according to the rank of their cities does not exist anywhere else, but the empire of Cathay is quite remarkable for the system with which it is organised.

NOTICE OF THE PRINCES, MINISTERS, AND SECRETARIES OF CATHAY, OF THEIR GRADATIONS IN RANK, OF THE RULES AND CUSTOMS AFFECTING THEM, AND OF THE NAMES THEY BEAR IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE COUNTRY.

The great princes who have the rank of Wazírs among those people have the title of *Chingsang*;² commanders in chief of the army have that of *Thaifu*; and chiefs of ten thousand soldiers are called *Wanshi*.³

Those Princes Wazírs and chief officers of the council who are either Tájiks,⁴ native Cathayans, or Ighúrs, have the title of *Fanchán*.⁵ Strictly speaking, the council of state is com-

¹ Mongol pronunciation of *Matheu*, a jetty, and hence a port. See *supra*, p. 126.

² This title *Chingsang* represents the Chinese *Ching-siang*, a minister of state. The name of Pulad *Chingsang*, the Great Khan's ambassador to the court of the Persian Khan, occurs frequently in D'Ohsson, who also mentions that the title of *Chingsang* was conferred on Bucai, the minister of the Persian Khan Argun, by Kublai (iv, 13). It is also the title which Marco Polo applies to Kublai's great general Bayam (or Baian) *Cing-san*, though he strangely alleges this to mean Bayam with the Hundred Eyes (i. 62). Full particulars regarding the imperial cabinet in the time of the Mongols will be found in Pauthier's *Marc Pol*, p. 329 *seq.* The number of the Chingsiang or chief ministers varied from two to four, and on one occasion there was but one.

³ *Wangshi*, from *Wan*, ten thousand. The termination is Mongol according to Klaproth. *Thaifu* looks like a genuine Chinese title, though I do not find it in the books on China. It is mentioned by the merchant Suleiman (*Dai-fú*) as the title of the governor of a first-rate city (*Relation des Voyages*, i, 37). In the late wars against the Taeping I have seen the title *Fu-tai* applied to the Imperial commander.

⁴ Of Persian race.

⁵ This word is read by Klaproth *Kabján*, and by Von Hammer *Tenján*. Pauthier says it should be read *Minján*, as the Mongol pronunciation of