

another matter from thine !”” Everything about this man was singular.¹

The day after my visit to the shaikh I set out on my return to the city of Zaitun, and some days after my arrival there an order was received from the Kán that I was to proceed to the capital, with arrangements for my honourable treatment and for defraying my expenses. He left me free to go by land or by water as I chose ; so I preferred going by the river.

They fitted up a very nice boat for me, such as is used for the transport of generals ; the Amir sent some of his suite to accompany me, and furnished provisions in abundance ; quantities also were sent by the kazi and the Mahomedan merchants. We travelled as the guests of the sultan, dining at one village, and supping at another ; and after a passage of ten days we arrived at KANJANFÚ. This is a large and beautiful city surrounded by gardens, in an immense plain. One would say it was the plain of Damascus !²

On my arrival the kazi, the shaikh of Islam, and the merchants came out to receive me, with flags and a band of musicians, with drums, trumpets, and horns. They brought horses for us, which we mounted, whilst they all went on foot before us except the kazi and the shaikh, who rode with us. The governor of the city also came out with his retinue to meet us, for a guest of the emperor's is highly honoured among those people. And so we entered Kan-

¹ The holy man in Egypt, described by Lady Duff Gordon (*supra* p. 464), “never prays, never washes, he does not keep Ramadán, and yet he is a saint.”

² This I have little doubt is Kianchangfu in Kiangsi, to which a water communication conducts all the way from Fucheu, and probably from Zayton, excepting for a space of 190 li (some fifty or sixty miles) in the passage of the mountains between Thsungnanghien in Fokien, and Yanchanhien in Kiangsi (*Klap. Mem. Rel. à l'Asie*, vol. iii.). Kianchangfu is described by Martini as a handsome and celebrated city, with a lake inside the walls and another outside. It was noted in his time for the excellence of its rice-wine.