

it took longer for the Chinese to abandon «Ho-lan mountains» in favour of «Alashan», and even now both forms occur on Chinese maps. The *Mêng-ku yu-mu chi*, transl. POPOV, 413-415 (cf. also MOSTAERT, *Textes oraux ordos*, 329), distinguish the Ho-lan mountains, in Mong. Alašan, and to the south-west, the 龍首 Lung-shou mountains («Dragon-head mountains»), in Mong. Alaq-ōla, as if by a sort of revival of the old nomenclature; Alaq-ōla means «Motley mountains». Perhaps both names are also to be recognized in the above-mentioned A-la-sha-a-lan-shan (? Alaša and Alan mountains) of YS; \*alan would be a dialectical Turk. form of *ala*, while *alaq* is the purely Mong. form. An Alaq-ōla (but not the «Alašan») is mentioned in «Sanang Setsen» (SCHMIDT, *Gesch. der Ost-Mongolen*, 259).

It is interesting to note that Polo found three Nestorian churches in «Calacian». I am not aware that any relics of ancient Western creeds have as yet been discovered in those parts, but we know that foreigners had settled there early, in the 5th cent., particularly near the present *hsien* of Ling-wu (= Ling-chou of the Manchu dynasty), east of the Yellow river, and south-east of Ning-hsia. When Su-tsung ascended the Imperial throne at Ling-wu itself in 756, with the support of Western troops, we know from the Nestorian tablet of 781 that he re-established the Nestorian churches «in the five *chün* Ling-wu and others». Either «Calacian» or «Egrigaya» itself (= Ning-hsia) must be the «city of Tangut» where, about Polo's time, Rabban Çauma and the future Mar Yahbalaha III met with a very warm reception at the hands of the local Christians (cf. *Mo*, 100). At a later period, there was a Jewish community at Ning-hsia; members of the Jewish Chin family of Ning-hsia are mentioned several times for the years 1489 and 1512 in the Jewish inscriptions of K'ai-fêng (cf. TOBAR, *Les inscriptions juives*, 49-50, 54, 64).

### 101. CALAMANZ (INK-HORN)

*calamanç* F  
*calamaria* LT

*chalamai* TA<sup>3</sup>  
*chalamari* TA<sup>1</sup>

*charamalli* V  
*pugillares* Z

This is the word translated «ink-horns» in Vol. I, 368. YULE, who wrote *calamanz* in agreement with the 1824 edition of F, thought that the form was «more suggestive of the Persian *Ḳalamdān* than of the Italian *Calamajo*» (*Y*, I, 84; II, 272). The old Latin translation (1824 ed., 441) gives *calamaria*. «Calamans» is surprising, and probably corrupt for «calamars». At any rate, the Pers. *qalamdān* is out of the question. Just in Polo's time, the *Codex Cumanicus* (KUUN, 90) correctly gives *calamarium*, with Pers. «duet» and Turk. «duat» as equivalents (< Arab. *dāwāt*, id.). Consequently, and with the exception of «Mulecte», not one remains of the additional Oriental words which YULE thought he had discovered in Polo and which he listed in *Y*, I, 84.