

363), «far to the south-west beyond the limits of Yung-ch'ang», were said to be descendants of the Chin-ch'ih, these being represented as of Pyū origin (*Hsü Yün-nan t'ung-chih kao*, 162, 29 b); but nothing is any longer said about their teeth. The Piao-jên seem to be identical with the 驃 Piao mentioned in *YS*, 61, 12 b, as one of the eight tribes of «Local Barbarians» living in the jurisdiction of the «Directing Commissariat of the Chin-ch'ih and other places» (they are the «chevaux rapides» of *Pa*, 397; but Piao is merely the transcription of a foreign name). The form 標 Piao also occurs in *YS*, 61, 13 b, in the name of a «military district of the area of Piao» (標甸軍民府 Piao-tien chün-min fu), of which nothing is known beyond the name.

### 198. ÇERME

çerme VB

zerme VB<sup>2</sup>, R

Ar. جرم *ǰarm*, pl. جرور *ǰurūm*; large barges on the Nile. My own conception of the «Polo-Rustichello» spelling would be «germe», on the basis of «çerme» of VB and «zerme» of VB<sup>2</sup> and R; *B*<sup>1</sup>, 369, has kept «zerme»; *RR*, 424, write «jerm». A passage very similar to Polo's occurs in Pegolotti (*EVANS*, 19): «Giermo vuol dire in Saracinesco grossi navili che portano le mercatantie da Damietta su per lo fiume insino al Cairo di Babilonia e dal Cairo su per lo detto fiume insino al mare dell'India». Our text of Pegolotti is very corrupt, and we ought perhaps to read «gierma» (although «germi» are again mentioned, p. 72), as the word seems to have always been used as a feminine in Italian and in French. In 1538, we have a Venetian plural *zerme* in *RAMUSIO*, I, 274 b. For French forms *djerme* and *germe*, Italian *germa* and diminutive *germetta*, cf. *JAL*, *Glossaire nautique*, 592, 780. A number of other quotations will be found in *HEYD*, *Hist. du commerce*, II, 60.

In *DALGADO's Glossário Luso-Asiático*, I, 428, Polo's «zerme» (in R) and *zerbe* in a Portuguese text of 1538 are wrongly treated as identical with Port. *gelba* or *gelva*, which comes from quite a different Arabic word, *ǰalba* (on which cf. *DOZY*, *Glossaire*<sup>2</sup>, 276; *YULE*, *Hobson-Jobson*<sup>2</sup>, 361-362). *LOKOTSCH's Etym. Wörterbuch* mentions neither word.

### 199. ÇIC

cac L

çic F, Z

ziziri TA<sup>1</sup>

From the days of Strabo onwards, the western Circassians have been known to the Greeks as Ζυγοί, Ζίχιοι, and their land became the country Ζιχία in Byzantine Greek (cf. *D'AVEZAC*, in *Rec. de Voy. et de Mém.*, IV, 497; *REINAUD*, *Géogr. d'Aboulféda*, II, I, 286, 322; *Y*, II, 492).