

the *T'ung tien*, 190, 2 b; the *T'ai-p'ing huan-yü chi*, 188, 10 a; the *T'ung chih*, 196, 16 a; and the *Wên-hsien t'ung-k'ao*, 334, 2 b, give only I-fu-ti; the name is unidentified), the customs of which are the same as those of the T'u-yü-hun. They do not know the five cereals, and live only on fish and 蘇子 *su-tzū* (« seeds of *su* »; ? *Perilla ocimoides*); the seeds of *su* are like the seeds of the 枸杞 *kou-chi* of China (*Lycium Chinense*). To the north [of the T'u-yü-hun], there is also the kingdom of 阿蘭 A-lan (this is the usual transcription of the name of the Alans [see « Alains », t. I, p. 16], but the true form certainly is 可蘭 K'o-lan, \*K'â-lân, given by all the other texts), [the people of] which are like birds and beasts. They do not know how to fight. If of a sudden they see a stranger, the whole kingdom takes to flight. The land yields nothing, [but the people] breed much cattle. The people are of light body and good at running; when pursued, they are not to be caught. To the north [of the T'u-yü-hun], there is also the Kingdom of the Woman King (Nü-wang kuo), where a woman is the ruler. People do not know it, but it is so reported. »

The *Pei shih* (96, 8 b, 9 a) is more detailed and more satisfactory : « North of the T'u-yü-hun, there is the kingdom of I-fu-wu-ti. In that kingdom there is the 屈海 Ch'ü-hai (« Bent Sea » ?, or transcription of a foreign name) more than 1 000 *li* in circuit. The people number 10,000 落 *lo* (« camps », « settlements »; here « tents » ?). Their customs are the same as [those of] the T'u-yü-hun. They do not know the five cereals and live only on fish and seeds of *su*; the seeds of *su* are like the seeds of *kou-chi* of China, either red or black. [West of the T'u-yü-hun] (the word « west » is not in the *Pei shih*, but is given in the *T'ung tien*, the *T'ai-p'ing huan-yü chi*, etc., and was certainly dropped by accident), there is a tribe [called] 契翰 Ch'i-han (\*K'iei-γân or \*K'iet-γân), the customs of which are also identical (on the ancient seat of the Ch'i-han, cf. the text, perhaps corrupt, of *T'ai-p'ing huan-yü chi*, 188, 9 a); it has particularly many wolves. North-west of the Po-lan Mountain, there is moreover the kingdom of K'o-lan, the customs of which are also identical [with those of the T'u-yü-hun]. Their eyes do not see the five colours; their ears do not hear the five sounds; they are an ugly race among all the kinds of Barbarians. The lands yields nothing, but they breed much cattle; and their tents (戶落 *hu-lo*) too may number more than 10.000. The people are stupid and weak, and do not know how to fight. If of a sudden they see a stranger, the whole kingdom takes to flight. Their nature is like that of wild beasts. They are light of body and good at running; when pursued, they are not to be caught. South-west of the Po-lan, at a distance of 2 500 *li*, and separated by a great range of mountains, after having crossed the Sea of Forty Li (Ssü-shih-li-hai), there is the Kingdom of the Woman King (女王國 Nü-wang kuo). The people number more than 10,000 *lo* (« tents » ?). They have fixed abodes. [The land] yields mulberry and hemp, and ripens the five cereals. They make a woman their king, hence their name. The interpreters (*i-shih*) have not been there, but it is so reported.» The *T'ai-p'ing huan-yü chi* (186, 8 b) has preserved a similar passage from an earlier work, 段國 Tuan Kuo's 沙州記 *Sha-chou chi*, written prior to 527 : « South-west of the Po-lan, at a distance of 2 500 *li*, and separated by a great range, after having crossed the Sea of Thirty Li (San-shih-li-hai), there is the 'Kingdom of Women (Nü-kuo).» The divergence between the «Sea of Forty Li» and the «Sea of Thirty Li» is the result of a clerical error, one way or the other, probably due to the ancient use either of 卅 and 卅 for « forty » and « thirty », or of 四 for « four ».

It is clear that the *Pei shih* gives the true bearings, whereas the *Wei shu* erroneously locates