

worth noticing that the Franciscan transcriptions with *-e-* support Abū-'l-Fidā's spelling of Kūm-mājar without the long *ā* of the last syllable which he uses in Mājar when it is the name of the Hungarians.

The name of « Mengiar » comes in Polo after that of « Lac », and we know that the « Lac » are the Lezghians. In the same way, Abū-'l-Fidā says (II, 1, 283) that « in the neighbourhood of Kūm-mājar are the Lakzī (Lezghians) ». It does not seem any more possible to doubt that « Mengiar » designates in Polo the region of the city of Mājar.

Strange as it may appear, Polo's spelling with an *-n-* at the end of the first syllable is not without support from other documents. The Genoese acts published by BRÄTIANU name the Hungarians when the real Hungarians are meant (although occasionally Rumanians are mixed up with them; cf. *Le commerce génois*, p. 229); but a document of 1289 from Caffa refers to the sale of « sclavum unum de proienie maniar, nominatum Balaban », and another of the same year, from Caffa also, to the sale of « sclavum unum... de proienie maniar, nominatum Teronda » (*Actes des notaires*, 178, 258). BRÄTIANU (*Le commerce génois*, 229) has already seen that « Maniar » must be Majar on the Kuma, identical with Polo's « Mengiar ». I do not know what « Teronda » means, but *balaban* is a good Turkish word designating a kind of falcon, and, as a proper name, has spread widely to India and to Egypt (although generally read wrongly « Balban »).

285. MERIDIN

meredimi V

meridien L

meridin Z; R

The Mardin of our maps; Polo couples it with « Mus » as the name of a province (see « Mus »). The « Meredimi » of V leaves the possibility that Polo had written « Meredin »; on the place, cf. Y, I, 62; LS, 96.

Hethum always writes « Meredin »; Ricold has « Merdinum »; Fra Mauro's « Merdi » stands for « Merdī » = « Merdin » (cf. *Hist. des Crois.*, Arm., II, 985; HALLBERG, 351-352). These transcriptions suppose *Märdin, instead of the usual Arabic spelling Märdin.

286. MINGAN

maghan TA³

mangha TA¹

migam LT

migan V

mingam FA, FB

mingan F; R

mingii VA

mitigan VL

miungaym P

Mong. Mingyan, which means « thousand »; Rašidu-'d-Din generally transcribes it مڭقان. Mingqan = Mingyan. This is a frequent name among the Mongols of the period; WANG Hui-tsu¹ (19, 11) distinguishes three 明安 Ming-an in YS alone. The present one is certainly the