

in Polo's time, a place of great importance because from it was regulated the water necessary for the feeding of the Grand Canal north and south. The identification of « Singiu matu » with Chi-ning has been established by MOULE in *TP*, 1912, 431-433, who noticed that the place was precisely called 新州 Hsin-chou (= Polo's « Singiu ») in the 1276 itinerary from Hang-chou to Shang-tu (cf. *TP*, 1915, 409, 417); Polo uses both « Singiu » and « Singiu matu ». But the seat of the administration was changed several times in the Mongol period from Chi-ning to 鉅野 Chü-yeh and *vice-versa*. The trend of the itineraries in *Yung-lo ta-tien*, 14926, 4 b, in spite of many clerical errors, seems to refer to a time when the seat was at Chü-yeh. It would require more time and space than I have at my disposal to inquire into the great changes which occurred in the hydrography of the region just about Polo's date. I am positive on one point, however: his « Singiu » or « Singiu matu » is the same as the Hsin-chou of the commissioners of 1276; and I think it is the present Chi-ning, though it may be Chü-yeh, which, in such a case, would have been at that time an important hydrographic centre before Chi-ning became one. It may be worth noting that the commissioners of 1276 did not reach Hsin-chou by water.

340. SIUGIU

F has « Cuigiu », which led PAUTHIER and YULE astray when they thought here of Kui-chou; the place can only be 叙州 Hsü-chou, Hsü-chou-fu or « Sui-fu » of our maps, on the Yang-tzū, and the various readings of other Mss. could be called upon to justify the correction, if *-iu-* and *-ui-* did not constantly alternate throughout the whole book (cf. « Siucin », for which F has both « Ciugiu » and « Cuigiu »). In both F's « Ciugiu », we have *hsü (siü)* noted by *ciu*, although Polo's *ci-* is generally *č-* or *či-*; either *c-* has been taken here before *i* with its French value, or *ci-* has replaced very early an original *si-*; I have decided for the second solution, with some hesitation. In the present case, I dare not attach much value to Z's reading « Sugçu », as the *g* is wrong, and suggests a contamination with the name of Su-chou (see « Succiu »). See also « Siugiu² ».

CHARIGNON (II, 269) has admitted that Polo's return journey started from Lin-an, far to the South of Yün-nan-fu, which he takes as the geographical equivalent of Polo's « Amau ». BENEDETTO (*B*¹, 448), taking too literally Polo's later vague and second-hand information about the Gulf of Tonkin (see « Cheynam ») bordering upon the provinces of « Amau » and « Toloman », has looked for « Toloman » on the eastern (and even south-eastern) border of Yün-nan, which is impossible in view of Polo's itinerary, and for anybody who accepts at the same time, as CHARIGNON and BENEDETTO do, that « Ciugiu » is Hsü-chou-fu. But the chapters on Burma, Bengala, « Caugigu » and « Amau » are « hors-d'œuvre » in Polo's account of Yün-nan, and I think YULE was right (*Y*, II, 131) in making the return journey start, in spite of the Mss. (in particular of F), not from « Amau » (*q. v.*), but from Yün-nan-fu; we have here another example of these digressions which Rustichello or an early copyist has turned into portions of the main itinerary. Chinese texts of the time are full