

tribes ; it issued from those Sha-t'o Tu-K'iu, who once reigned in the north of China as the How T'ang Dynasty (923-936 A.D.). It split into two branches, the Wang-Ku of the Yn-shan, and the Wang-Ku of the Lin-t'ao (west of Kan-su). The Kin removed the latter branch to Liao-tung (in Manchuria). The Yn-shan Wang-Ku guarded the northern borders of China belonging to the Kin, and watched their herds. When the Kin, as a protection against the inroads of the tribes of the desert, erected a rampart, or new wall, from the boundary of the Tángut Kingdom down to Manchuria, they intrusted the defence of the principal places of the Yn-shan portion of the wall to the Wang-Ku, and transferred there also the Liao-tung Wang-Ku. At the time Chingiz Khan became powerful, the chief of the Wang-Ku of the Yn-shan was Alahush ; and at the head of the Liao-tung Wang-Ku stood *Pa-sao-ma-ie-li*. Alahush proved a traitor to the Kin, and passed over to Chingiz Khan ; for this he was murdered by the malcontents of his family, perhaps by *Pa-sao-ma-ie-li*, who remained true to the Kin. Later on, Chingiz Khan married one of his daughters to the son of Alahush, by name Po-yao-ho, who, however, had no children by her. He had three sons by a concubine, the eldest of whom, Kiun-pu-hwa, was married to Kuyuk Khan's daughter. Kiun-pu-hwa's son, Ko-li-ki-sze, had two wives, both of imperial blood. During a campaign against Haidu, he was made prisoner in 1298, and murdered. His title and dignities passed over in A.D. 1310 to his son *Chuan*. Nothing is known of Alahush's later descendants ; they probably became entirely Chinese, like their relatives of the Liao-tung branch.

"The Wang-Ku princes were thus *de jure* the sons-in-law of the Mongol Khans, and they had, moreover, the hereditary title of Kao-t'ang princes (Kao-t'ang wang) ; it is very possible that they had their residence in ancient T'ien-te Kiun (although no mention is made of it in history), just as at present the Tumot princes reside in Kuku-hoton.

"The consonance of the names of Wang-Khan and Wang-Ku (Ung-Khan and Ongu) led to the confusion regarding the tribes and persons, which at Marco Polo's time seems to have been general among the Europeans in China ; Marco Polo and Johannes de Monte Corvino transfer the title of Prester John from Wang-Khan, already perished at that time, to the distinguished family of Wang-Ku. Their Georgius is undoubtedly Ko-li-ki-sze, Alahush's great-grandson. That his name is a Christian one is confirmed by other testimonies ; thus in the Asu (Azes) regiment of the Khan's guards was Ko-li-ki-sze, *aliàs* Kow-r-ki (†1311), and his son Ti-mi-ti-r. There is no doubt that one of them was Georgius, and the other Demetrius. Further, in the description of *Chin-Kiang* in the time of the Yuen, mention is made of Ko-li-ki-sze Ye-li-ko-wen, *i.e.* Ko-li-ki-sze, the Christian, and of his son Lu-ho (Luke).

"Ko-li-ki-sze of Wang-ku is much praised in history for his valour and his love for Confucian doctrine ; he had in consequence of a special favour of the Khan two Mongol princesses for wives at the same time (which is rather difficult to conciliate with his being a Christian). The time of his death is correctly indicated in a letter of Joannes de M. Corvino of the year 1305 : *ante sex annos nigravit ad Dominum*. He left a young son *Chu-an*, who probably is the Joannes of the letter of Ioannes (Giovani) de M. Corvino, so called *propter nomen meum*, says the missionary. In another Wang-ku branch, Si-li-ki-sze reminds one also of the Christian name *Sergius*."—H. C.]

NOTE 3.—"The *Lapis Armenus*, or Azure, . . . is produced in the district of Tayton-fu (*i.e.* *Tathung*), belonging to Shansi." (*Du Halde in Astley*, IV. 309 ; see also *Martini*, p. 36.)

NOTE 4.—This is a highly interesting passage, but difficult, from being corrupt in the G. Text, and over-curt in Pauthier's MSS. In the former it runs as follows : "*Hil hi a une jenerasion de jens que sunt appellés Argon, qe vaut à dire en françois Guasmul, ce est à dire qu'il sunt né del deus generacions de la lengnée des celz Argon Tenduc et des celz reduc et des celz que aorent Maomet. Il sunt biaux homes plus*