

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE WORLD'S REBELLION OF LIITAN  
its rule, that is to say that they are noble *and great* and *all* of great value, for they are V FB  
cities of great trade and of great profit, for they have silk beyond measure, and V  
*therefore there are many merchants in this city.* And I tell you that *it used to have a king* P  
*before it was made subject to the great Kaan.* In the 1272<sup>1</sup> year [606] of the incarnation of  
Christ the great Kaan had sent a baron of his who had Liitan Sangon for name to TA  
go to this city and to this province that he should *rule and guard* and keep it safe. VB  
Moreover he gives eighty thousand<sup>2</sup> horsemen to this Liitan to keep this watch.  
And when this Liitan has stayed with *all* these people in this province *awhile*, FB FB  
*then, seeing himself at the head of so many men and of so rich and fertile a land, growing proud* VB  
*and considering his ability to rule, he was infected with imaginations of treason and like a* Z  
*traitor he thinks of doing a very great disloyalty, and you shall hear what.* He was  
*speaking with all the wise men of all these cities and led them away with the deceitful* Z Z  
*proposal, and plans with them that they should rebel against the great Kaan.* And  
they do it with the *consent and goodwill* of all the people of *the cities and villages* of Z R  
the province, for they rebel against the great Kaan and *were willing to obey him in* FB  
*nothing, and made their captain that Liitan who was come from the lord to guard and protect* FB  
*them.* And when the great Kaan knows this he orders there *immediately* two of his FB  
most noble barons who had for names *the one Agiul and the other Mongatai*, and with VB FB FB  
them he sends quite a hundred thousand horsemen *and many on foot.* And why should VB  
I make you a long story? You may know quite truly that *when Liitan Sangon knew* VB  
*of the coming of the said two captains with so great an army he too made ready his people, and*  
*with no less number than that of the great Kaan, and came as fast as he could to the encounter;*  
*and when the two armies had found one another these two barons with all their people* FB  
fought with Liitan who was a rebel and with all the people on *his side* whom he can FB  
assemble *from the country round*, who were indeed about a hundred thousand horsemen FB  
and a very great quantity of men on foot. *They were fighting hand to hand with great* VB  
*slaughter on one side and on the other; but such was the luck<sup>3</sup> that in the end Liitan lost* V  
the battle and was killed there with many others *in the battle.* And when the captain VB  
was dead the whole host took to flight, and as the Tartars followed them a great quantity were  
killed and many taken. *And so the two barons whom the lord had sent had the victory, and* FB Z  
they quickly defeated Liitan with his army. *And when the great Kaan knew this he was very* FB  
glad because of it. And after that Liitan was discomfited and dead the great Kaan

<sup>1</sup> VB,R: 1272 FA,FB,TA,LT: 1273 V,VA,P,Z,L omit.

<sup>2</sup> VB: 70000 V: *molti miera*—and so for 100000 &c. below.

<sup>3</sup> *lautature* for *laurenture* Note that this is exactly the corruption which is suggested on p. 75 above, *autaeesse* for *a uenesse*.