

KING CAIDU GOES BACK AGAIN TO SAMARCAN  $\neq$  MARCO POLO

these were the mothers and the sweethearts<sup>1</sup> of men who died there. And when  
 Z the battle had lasted so long as you have heard *above* and the sun already turned  
 to the going down, and there were so many dead men as I have [told you], then  
 FA it is necessary that the battle should stop with a forced ending; *nor did anyone know*  
*which party had the better of it.* And then they departed and each returns to his camp  
 FA to their tents, those who remained whole, so weary and toil-worn [98b] that there was  
 FA none there who could help himself. And the wounded, of whom there were enough on one side  
 and on the other, each complained of his own ill; so that there was none who had not better  
 LT need of rest than of fighting. At night therefore they rest very gladly for the toil which  
 they had borne that day in that great and mortal battle. And when the morning was  
 L come the king Caidu who knew that the result of the next battle would be doubtful and had  
 FA LT had news by his spies at night that the great Kaan was sending a great army after him  
 FA VB with a very great people to take and assail him in support of his son, and that it  
 was already not too far distant, he says to himself that he would do ill to stay there  
 LT any longer, and then as soon as he saw the dawn appears he arms himself with all  
 his people and they mount on horseback and set themselves on the way to return  
 to their country.<sup>2</sup> And when the son to the great Kaan and the grandson of the  
 Prester Johan saw that the king Caidu and all his people were gone off, they  
 LT do not go after them but let them go quietly, because they & their people were  
 LT Z very tired of foreign war and much toil-worn. And the king Caidu with his people ride  
 so far by their journeys without stopping themselves that they were come into  
 V their kingdom, that is into the city of the great Turquie to Samarcand, and there he  
 Z V stays awhile without making war against any, and did not care about the great harm which  
 he had done to the great lord.

THAT WHICH THE GREAT KAN SAYS OF THE HARM WHICH CAIDU DOES HIM.

V And knowing this the great Kan had very great anger thereat with this  
 Z king Caidu who was always harming him his people and his lands so  
 Z much. And he says indeed to himself that if it were not that he is his grandson  
 he would never be able to escape without his having him put to an evil death;  
 LT but the flesh restrained him that he did not destroy him and his land as he would  
 have done to another enemy. And in such way as I tell you the king Caidu escaped from

<sup>1</sup> *les araines* B. prints *le serores*, which is very good sense but is palæographically very unlikely to have given rise to such a corruption. Y. supposed that *araines* was *harem*. The dictionary meanings of *araine*, *araigne* (trumpet, sand, airy, pledged, gossamer cloth, etc.) give little help; and the version given is purely conjectural. PAUTHIER's "fiancées" has some support from GODEFROY, s.v. *araisnier*.

<sup>2</sup> LT adds *set non cum totis pennis*