

as a drug. Even if an antidote is taken, this poison will cause death within a half day. The goats feeding on the sprouts of this plant will fatten and grow." Fan Č'en-ta 范成大 (1126-93), in his *Kwei hai yü heñ či*,<sup>1</sup> mentions this plant under the name *hu-man t'en* 藤 ("hu-man creeper"), saying that it is a poisonous herb, which, rubbed and soaked in water, will result in instantaneous death as soon as this liquid enters the mouth. The plant is indigenous to southern China, and no reason is given for the word *hu* being prefixed to it.

12. *Hu t'ui-tse* 胡頹子 (literally, "chin of the Hu") is the name of an evergreen tree or shrub indigenous throughout China, even to Annam. The name is not explained, and there are no data in Chinese records to indicate that it was introduced from abroad.<sup>2</sup> It is mentioned by Č'en Ts'añ-k'i as a tree growing in P'in-lin 平林, and it is said to be alluded to in the chapter *Wu hiñ či* 五行志 of the *Sun šu*. The synonyme *k'io'r-su* 雀兒酥 ("sparrow-curd," because the birds are fond of the fruit) first appears in the *Pao či lun* of Lei Hiao of the fifth century. The people of Yüe call the plant *p'u-t'ui-tse* 蒲頹子; the southerners, *lu-tu-tse* 盧都子, which according to Liu Tsi 劉績 of the Ming, in his *Fei šie lu* 霏雪錄, is a word from the speech of the Man. The people of Wu term the tree *pan-han-č'un* 半含春, because its fruit ripens at an early date. The people of Sian 襄 style it *hwañ-p'o-nai* 黃婆孃 ("yellow woman's breast"), because the fruit resembles a nipple.

13. In *hu-lu* 胡 or 葫蘆 (*Lagenaria vulgaris*) the first character is a substitute for 瓠 *hu*. The gourd is a native of China.

14. *Hui-hui tou* 回回豆 (literally, "Mohammedan bean") is a plant everywhere growing wild in the fields.<sup>3</sup> The same remark holds good for *hu tou* 胡豆, a kind of bean which is roasted or made into flour, according to the *Pen ts'ao ši i*, a weed growing in rice-fields. Wu K'i-ts'ün, author of the *Či wu miñ ši t'u k'ao*, says, "What is now *hu tou*, grows wild, and is not the *hu tou* of ancient times."<sup>4</sup>

15. *Yen hu su* 延胡素 denotes tubers of *Corydalis ambigua*: they are little, hard, brown tubers, of somewhat flattened spherical form, averaging half an inch in diameter. The plant is a native of Siberia,

<sup>1</sup> Ed. of *Či pu tsu čai ts'un šu*, p. 30.

<sup>2</sup> STUART (Chinese Materia Medica, p. 161) is mistaken in saying that several names of this plant are "possibly transliterations of Turkic or Mongol names." There are no such names on record. The tree is identified with *Elaeagnus longipes* or *pungens*.

<sup>3</sup> *Či wu miñ ši t'u k'ao*, Ch. 2, p. 11 b. It is first mentioned in the *Kiu hwañ pen ts'ao*, being also called *na-ho-tou* 那合豆

<sup>4</sup> See, further, below, p. 305.