

are the particular places where the pomegranate thrives. Su Sun of the Sung period states that the pomegranate was originally grown in the Western Countries (*Si yü* 西域), and that it now occurs everywhere; but neither he nor any other author makes a positive statement as to the time and exact place of origin. The *Yao sin lun*, *Pen ts'ao ši i*, and *Pen ts'ao yen i*¹ give merely a botanical notice, but nothing of historical interest.

The pomegranate (*ši-liu*) is mentioned in the "Poem on the Capital of Wu" 吳都賦 by Tso Se 左思, who lived in the third century under the Wu dynasty (A.D. 222-280). P'an Yo 潘岳, a poet of the fourth century A.D., says, "Pomegranates are the most singular trees of the empire and famous fruits of the Nine Provinces."² A thousand seed-cases are enclosed by the same membrane, and what looks like a single seed in fact is ten."

The *Tsin Lun nan k'i kü ču* 晉隆安起居注 ("Annotations on the Conditions of the period Lun-nan [A.D. 397-402] of the Tsin Dynasty") contains the following note:³ "The pomegranates (*nan ši liu*) of the district Lin-yüan 臨沅 in Wu-liñ 武陵⁴ are as large as cups; they are not sour to the taste. Each branch bears six fruits."

Lu Hui 陸翊 of the Tsin dynasty, in his *Ye čun ki* 鄴中記,⁵ states that in the park of Ši Hu 石虎 there were pomegranates with seeds as large as cups, and they were not sour. Ši Hu or Ši Ki-lun 石季龍 ruled from A.D. 335 to 349, under the appellation T'ai Tsu 大祖 of the Hou Čao dynasty, as "regent celestial king" (*kü-še t'ien wan*), and shifted the capital to Ye 鄴, the present district of Lin-čan 臨漳, in the prefecture of Čan-te 彰德 in Ho-nan.⁶

The pomegranate is mentioned in the *Ku kin ču* 古今注,⁷ written by Ts'ui Pao 崔豹 during the middle of the fourth century, with reference to the pumelo 柑 (*Citrus grandis*), the fruit of which is compared in shape with the pomegranate. The *Ts'i min yao šu* (l.c.) gives rules for the planting of pomegranates.

¹ Ch. 18, p. 7 (ed. of Lu Sin-yüan); the other texts see in *Čen lei pen ts'ao*, l. c.

² 九州, the ancient division of China under the Emperor Yü.

³ *T'ai p'in yü lan*, Ch. 970, p. 4 b. Regarding the department of records styled *k'i kü ču*, see *The Diamond*, p. 35. In the *Yüan kien lei han* (Ch. 402, p. 2) the same text is credited to the *Sun šu*.

⁴ In Hu-nan Province.

⁵ Ed. of *Wu yin tien*, p. 12.

⁶ Regarding his history, see L. WIEGER, *Textes historiques*, pp. 1095-1100. BRETSCHNEIDER'S (Bot. Sin., pt. I, p. 211) note, that, besides the *Ye čun ki* of Lu Hui, there is another work of the same name by Ši Hu, is erroneous; Ši Hu is simply the "hero" of the *Ye čun ki*.

⁷ Ch. c, p. 1 (ed. of *Han Wei ts'un šu* or *Ki fu ts'un šu*). Cf. also below, p. 283.