New Persian kišnīz, kušnīz, and gišnīz, also šūnīz; Kurd ksnis or kišniš; Turkish kišniš; Russian kišnėts; Aramaic kusbarta and kusbar (Hebrew gad, Punic γοίδ, are unconnected), Arabic kozbera or kosberet; Sanskrit kustumburu and kustumbarī; Middle and Modern Greek κουσβαράς and κισυνήτζι.

According to the Hui k'ian či, the coriander is called in Turkistan (that is, in Turkī) yun-ma-su 永麻素.

It is commonly said that the coriander is indigenous to the Mediterranean and Caucasian regions (others say southern Europe, the Levant, etc.), but it is shown by the preceding notes that Iran should be included in this definition. I do not mean to say, however, that Iran is the exclusive and original home of the plant. Its antiquity in Egypt and in Palestine cannot be called into doubt. It has been traced in tombs of the twenty-second dynasty (960–800 B.C.), and Pliny states that the Egyptian coriander is the best. In Iran the cultivation seems to have been developed to a high degree; and the Iranian product was propagated in all directions,—in China, India, anterior Asia, and Russia.

The Tibetan name for the coriander, u-su, may be connected with or derived from Chinese hu-sui. L. A. Waddell⁵ saw the plant cultivated in a valley near Lhasa. It is also cultivated in Siam.⁶

Coriander was well known in Britain prior to the Norman Conquest, and was often employed in ancient Welsh and English medicine and cookery. Its Anglo-Saxon name is cellendre, coliandre, going back to Greek koriándron, koriannon.

¹ Another Persian word is būghunj. According to STEINGASS (Persian Dictionary), tālkī or tālgī denotes a "wild coriander."

² The second element of the Arabic, Sanskrit, and Greek words seems to bear some relation to Coptic beršiu, berešu (V. Loret, Flore pharaonique, p. 72). In Greece, coriander is still cultivated, but only sparsely, near Theben, Corinth, and Cyparissia (Th. v. Heldreich, Nutzpflanzen Griechenlands, p. 41).

³ V. Loret, op. cit., p. 72; F. Woenig, Pflanzen im alten Aegypten, p. 225.

⁴ XX, 20, §82.

⁵ Lhasa, p. 316.

⁶ Pallegoix, Description du royaume thai, Vol. I, p. 126.

⁷ Flückiger and Hanbury, Pharmacographia, p. 329.