

cattle and horses. The *hu t'un* looks as if it were corroded by insects. A resin flows down and comes out of this tree, which is popularly called 'hu-t'un tears'. It can be used for soldering gold (or metal) and silver. In the colloquial language, they say also *lii* 律 instead of *lei*, which is faulty."<sup>1</sup>

The *T'an pen ts'ao*<sup>2</sup> is credited with this statement: "*Hu t'un lei* is an important remedy for the teeth. At present this word is the name of a place west of Aksu. The tree is full of small holes. One can travel for several days and see nothing but *hu t'un* trees in the forests. The leaves resemble those of the *t'un* (*Paulownia*). The resin which is like glue flows out of the roots."

The *Lin piao lu i*<sup>3</sup> states positively that *hu t'un lei* is produced in Persia, being the sap of the *hu t'un* tree, and adds that there are also "stone tears," *ši lei* 石淚, which are collected from stones.

Su Kuñ, the reviser of the *Pen ts'ao* of the T'ang, makes this observation:<sup>4</sup> "*Hu t'un lei* is produced in the plains and marshes as well as in the mountains and valleys lying to the west of Su-čou 肅州. In its shape it resembles yellow vitriol (*hwan fan* 黃礬),<sup>5</sup> but is far more solid. The worm-eaten trees are styled *hu t'un* trees. When their sap filters into earth and stones, it forms a soil-made product like natron. This tree is high and large, its bark and leaves resembling those of the white poplar and the green *t'un* 青桐. It belongs to the family of mulberries, and is hence called *hu t'un* tree. Its wood is good for making implements."

Han Pao-šen 韓保昇, who edited the *Šu pen ts'ao* 蜀本草 about the middle of the tenth century, states, "The tree occurs west of Liañ-čou 涼州 (in Kan-su). In the beginning it resembles a willow; when it has grown, it resembles a mulberry and the *t'un*. Its sap sinks into the soil, and is similar to earth and stone. It is used as a dye like the ginger-stone (*kian ši* 薑石).<sup>6</sup> It is extremely salty and bitter. It is dissolved by the application of water, and then becomes like alum shale or saltpetre. It is collected during the winter months."

Ta Miñ 大明, who wrote a *Pen ts'ao* about A.D. 970, says with reference to this tree, "There are two kinds,— a tree-sap which is not employed in the pharmacopœia, and a stone-sap collected on the

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Čeñ lei pen ts'ao*, Ch. 13, p. 33.

<sup>2</sup> As quoted in the *Či wu miñ ši t'u k'ao*, Ch. 35, p. 8 b.

<sup>3</sup> Ch. B, p. 7 a (see above, p. 268).

<sup>4</sup> *Čeñ lei pen ts'ao*, l.c.

<sup>5</sup> F. DE MÉLY, *Lapidaire chinois*, p. 149.

<sup>6</sup> A variety of stalactite (see F. DE MÉLY, *Lapidaire chinois*, p. 94; GEERTS, *Produits*, p. 343; *Čeñ lei pen ts'ao*, Ch. 5, p. 32).