

is said to be like *pa-lan-tse*. In the Gazetteer of Č'eñ-te fu, *pa-lan žen* 仁 is given as a variety of apricot.¹

Ho Yi-hiñ, in his *Čeñ su wen*, published in 1884,² observes that "at present the people of the capital style the almond *pa-ta* 巴達, which is identical with *pa-tan* 巴旦. The people of Eastern Ts'i 東齊 (Šan-tuñ) call the almond, if it is sweet and fine, *žen hiñ* 榛杏 (hazel-nut apricot), because it has the taste of hazel-nuts.³ According to the *Hiañ tsu pi ki* 香祖筆記, a certain kind of almond, styled 'almond of the *I wu hui* Park' 異物彙苑, is exported from Herat 哈烈. At present it occurs in the northern part of China. The fruit offered in the capital is large and sweet, that of Šan-tuñ is small with thin and scant meat."

The old tradition concerning the origin of the almond in Persia is still alive in modern Chinese authors. The Gazetteer of Šaň-se čou in the prefecture of T'ai-p'ih, Kwañ-si Province, states that the flat peach is a cultivation of the country Po-se (Persia).⁴ The tree is (or was) cultivated in that region. Also the *Hwa mu siao či* 花木小志 (p. 29 b)⁵ testifies to indigenous cultivation by saying that almond-trees grow near the east side of mountains. It may be, of course, that the almond has shared the fate of the date-palm, and that its cultivation is now extinct in China.⁶

¹ O. FRANKE, Beschreibung des Jehol-Gebietes, p. 75.

² Ch. 12, p. 5 b (see above, p. 399).

³ This observation is also made by Li Ši-čen.

⁴ Šaň-se čou či 上思州志, Ch. 14, p. 7 b (published in 1835).

⁵ Published in the *Č'un ts'ao t'añ tsi* 春草堂集 during the period Tao-kwañ (1820-50).

⁶ HAUER (Erzeugnisse der Provinz Chili, *Mitt. Sem. or. Spr.*, 1908, p. 14) mentions almonds, large and of sweet flavor, as a product of the district of Mi-yün in Či-li, and both sweet and bitter almonds as cultivated in the district of Lwan-p'ih in the prefecture of Č'eñ-te (Jehol), the annual output of the latter locality being given as a hundred thousand catties,—a hardly credible figure should almonds really be involved. Hauer's article is based on the official reports submitted by the districts to the Governor-General of the Province in 1904; and the term rendered by him "almond" in the original is *ta pien fen* 大扁分, apparently a local or colloquial expression which I am unable to trace in any dictionary. It is at any rate questionable whether it has the meaning "almond." O. FRANKE, in his description of the Jehol territory, carefully deals with the flora and products of that region without mentioning almonds, nor are they referred to in the Chinese Gazetteer of Č'eñ-te fu.