

*Pen ts'ao* to notice it. The point is emphasized that the drug serves for the poisoning of dogs. The plant now grows in Se-č'wan.

The Sanskrit term for nux-vomica is *kupīlu*, from which is derived Tibetan *go-byi-la* or *go-bye-la*.<sup>1</sup> The latter is pronounced *go-ji-la*, hence the Mongols adopted it as *gojila*. It is uncertain whether the Sanskrit name is related to Persian *kučla* or not.

According to FLÜCKIGER and HANBURY,<sup>2</sup> the tree is indigenous to most parts of India, especially the coast districts, and is found in Burma, Siam, Cochin-China, and northern Australia. The use of the drug in India, however, does not seem to be of ancient date, and possibly was taught there by the Mohammedans. It is mentioned in the Persian pharmacopœia of Abu Mansur (No. 113) under the Arabic name *jauz ul-qei*.<sup>3</sup> SCHLIMMER<sup>4</sup> gives also the terms *azaragi* and *gatel el-kebe*, and observes, "Son emploi dans la paralysie est d'ancienne date, car l'auteur du *Mexzen el-Edviyeh* en parle déjà, ajoutant en outre que la noix vomique est un remède qui change le tempérament froid en tempérament chaud; le même auteur recommande les cataplasmes avec sa poudre dans la coxalgie et dans les maladies articulaires."

The Arabs, who say that the tree occurs only in the interior of Yemen, were well acquainted with the medicinal properties of the fruit.<sup>5</sup> Nux-vomica is likewise known in Indo-China (*Čam salaiñ* and *phun akam*, Khmer *slên*, Annamese *ku-či*; the latter probably a transcription of *kučila*).<sup>6</sup>

The *Kew Bulletin* for 1917 (p. 341) contains the following notice on *Strychnos nux-vomica* in Cochin-China: "In *K. B.* 1917 (pp. 184, 185), some evidence is given as to the occurrence of this species in Cochin-China in the wild state. Since the account was written a letter and a packet of undoubted nux-vomica seeds have been received from the Director, Agricultural and Commercial Services, Cochin-China, with the information that the seeds were obtained from trees growing wild in the country. H. B. M.'s Consul, Saigon, also sends the following information about *S. nux-vomica* in Cochin-China which he has received from Monsieur Morange, Director of the Agricultural and Commercial

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Loan-Words in Tibetan, No. 50 (*T'oung Pao*, 1916, p. 457).

<sup>2</sup> *Pharmacographia*, p. 428.

<sup>3</sup> ACHUNDOW, Abu Mansur, p. 43.

<sup>4</sup> *Terminologie*, p. 402.

<sup>5</sup> L. LECLERC, *Traité des simples*, Vol. I, p. 380.

<sup>6</sup> Cf. E. PERROT and P. HURRIER, *Matière médicale et pharmacopée sino-annamites*, p. 171; the Chinese and Annamese certainly did not avail themselves of this drug "from time immemorial," as stated by these authors. See, further, C. FORD, *China Review*, Vol. XV, 1887, p. 220.