say expressly that it dyes hair and mustache black.[1] It gives to cotton fabrics a black color, which is said to be insoluble in water, but soluble in alcohol. The juice of the pericarp is mixed with lime water as a mordant before it is used to mark cloth. In some parts of Bengal the fruits are regularly used as a dye for cotton cloths.[2] The fleshy cups on which the fruit rests, roasted in ashes, and the kernels of the nuts, are eaten as food. They are supposed to stimulate the mental powers, especially the memory. The acrid juice of the pericarp is a powerful vesicant, and the fruit is employed medicinally.

In regard to the Persian-Arabic *balādur*, Ibn al-Baiṭār states expressly that this is an Indian word,[3] and there is no doubt that it is derived from Sanskrit *bhallātaka*. The term is also given by Abu Mansur, who discusses the application of the remedy.[4] The main point in this connection is that *p'o-lo-te* is a typical Indian plant, and that the Po-se of the above Chinese text cannot refer to Persia. Since the tree occurs in the Malayan area, however, it is reasonable to conclude that again the Malayan Po-se is intended. The case is analogous to the preceding one, and the Malayan Po-se were the mediators. At any rate, the transmission to China of an Indian product with a Sanskrit name by way of the Malayan Po-se is far more probable than by way of Persia. I am also led to the general conclusion that almost all Po-se products mentioned in the *Hai yao pen ts'ao* of Li Sün have reference to the Malayan Po-se exclusively.

67. A drug, by the name 補骨脂 *pu-ku-či* (*bu-kut-tši), identified with *Psoralea corylifolia*, is first distinctly mentioned by Ma Či 馬志, collaborator in the *K'ai pao pen ts'ao* (A.D. 968–976) of the Sung period, as growing in all districts of Liṅ-nan (Kwaṅ-tuṅ) and Kwaṅ-si, and in the country Po-se. According to Ta Miṅ 大明, author of the *Zi hwa ču kia pen ts'ao* 日華諸家本草, published about A.D. 970, the drug would have been mentioned in the work *Nan čou ki* by Sü Piao (prior to the fifth century),[5] who determined it as 胡韭子 *hu kiu-tse*, the "*Allium odorum* of the Hu." This, however, is plainly an anachronism, as neither the plant, nor the drug yielded by it, is mentioned by any T'ang writers, and for the first time looms up in the pharmacopœia of the Sung. Su Suṅ, in his *T'u kiṅ pen ts'ao*, observes that the plant now occurs abundantly on the mountain-slopes of southern China,

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[1] *Čeṅ lei pen ts'ao*, Ch. 5, p. 14 b.

[2] Cf. WATT, Dictionary, Vol. VI, pt. 2, p. 498.

[3] LECLERC, Traité des simples, Vol. I, pp. 162, 265.

[4] ACHUNDOW, Abu Mansur, p. 30.

[5] See above, p. 247.