

κολούτζια, χαυλιζέν, and γαλαγγά; in Russian, *kalgán*. The whole group has nothing to do with Chinese *kao-lian-kian*.¹ Moreover, the latter refers to a different species, *Alpinia officinarum*; while *Alpinia galanga* does not occur in China, but is a native of Bengal, Assam, Burma, Ceylon, and the Konkan. GARCIA DA ORTA was already well posted on the differences between the two.²

8. Abu Mansur mentions the medical properties of *māmīrān*.³ According to ACHUNDOW,⁴ a rhizome originating from China, and called in Turkistan *momiran*, is described by Dragendorff, and is regarded by him as identical with the so-called mishmee (from *Coptis teeta* Wall.), which is said to be styled *mamiračín* in the Caucasus. He further correlates the same drug with *Ranunculus ficaria* (χελιδόνιον τὸ μικρόν), subsequently described by the Arabs under the name *mamirun*. Al-Jafiki is quoted by Ibn al-Baiṭār as saying that the *māmīrān* comes from China, and that its properties come near to those of *Curcuma*;⁵ these roots, however, are also a product of Spain, the Berber country, and Greece.⁶ The Sheikh Daūd says that the best which comes from India is blackish, while that of China is yellowish. Ibn Baṭūṭa⁷ mentions the importation of *māmīrān* from China, saying that it has the same properties as *kurkum*. Hajji Mahomed, in his account of Cathay (ca. 1550), speaks of a little root growing in the mountains of Succuir (Su-čou in Kan-su), where the rhubarb grows, and which they call Mambroni Cini (*māmīrān-i Čīnī*, "mamiran of China"). "This is extremely dear, and is used in most of their ailments, but especially where the eyes are affected. They grind it on a stone with rose-water, and anoint the eyes with it. The result is wonderfully beneficial."⁸ In 1583 LEONHART RAUWOLF⁹ mentions

¹ Needless to say that the vivisections of Hirth, who did not know the Sanskrit term, lack philological method.

² MARKHAM, *Colloquies*, p. 208. Garcia gives *lavandou* as the name used in China; this is apparently a corrupted Malayan form (cf. Javanese *laos*). In Java, he says, there is another larger kind, called *lancuaz*; in India both are styled *lancuaz*. This is Malayan *leñkūwas*, Makasar *lañkuwasa*, Čam *lakuah* or *lakuak*, Tagalog *lañkuas*. The Arabic names are written by Garcia *calvegiam*, *chamligiam*, and *galungem*; the author's Portuguese spelling, of course, must be taken into consideration.

³ ACHUNDOW, *Abu Mansur*, p. 138.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 268.

⁵ LECLERC, *Traité des simples*, Vol. II, p. 441. Dioscorides remarks that the sap of this plant has the color of saffron.

⁶ In Byzantine Greek it is *μαμηρέ* or *μεμηρέν*, derived from the Persian-Arabic word.

⁷ Ed. of DEFRÉMERY and SANGUINETTI, Vol. II, p. 186.

⁸ YULE, *Cathay*, new ed., Vol. I, p. 292.

⁹ *Beschreibung der Raiss inn die Morgenländer*, p. 126.