

a collection of works first issued in the Southern Sung dynasty in 1228 A. D. and reprinted many times. The Library of Congress has a late Ming edition of this collection that would now be called a *ts'ung shu*. Thanks to the hearty cooperation of Dr. M. Shirai, it was possible to get photographic copies of the text of the *Li chih p'u*, a monograph of the lychee, the favorite fruit of the Chinese, from two editions of the *Po ch'üan hsueh hai* from the Lo Hsin-yüan collection of Sung and other ancient Chinese books now owned by Baron Iwasaki and housed in the great Seikado Library in the outskirts of Tokyo. A third text secured with the potent help of Doctor Shirai was a good early edition of the *Po ch'üan hsueh hai* from the great Imperial Household Library, which is very rarely opened to visitors. This third text seems to bear marks of being a genuine Sung edition, and preliminary studies by Michael J. Hagerty show that this is the best text extant of the *Li chih p'u*. It may prove to be from the original edition of the *Po ch'üan hsueh hai* printed in 1228 A. D. Fortunately the original preface was photographed along with the text of the *Li chih p'u*.

At the time that this very good text of Ts'ai Hsiang's monograph on the lychee was found, Doctor Shirai learned of the existence in the Imperial Household Library of the second half of a printed copy of the *Ch'üan fang pei tsu* of Ch'ên Ching-i, a Sung encyclopedia of flowers and fruits (noticed in the Annual Report for 1925-26) not now known to exist in printed form in China, although manuscript copies are occasionally found and one such is in the Library of Congress.

Unfortunately a study of the partial text of the *Li chih p'u* contained in this work showed that this fourth text was very corrupt, almost as bad as that in the manuscript copies of the *Ch'üan fang pei tsu* now found in China. It would seem that this printed edition, although seemingly a very old one—perhaps a late Sung dynasty edition—must have been based on a corrupt manuscript copy and can not be the original work of Ch'ên Ching-i.

The fifth text is a manuscript copy of the volume of the great *Ssu k'u ch'üan shu* manuscript library contain-