

far more pleasant to the palate than the common green kind ; which is, besides, tough, and possesses a certain acrid quality.

*Beetle*, or *pawn*, is prepared by carefully picking out any defects in the leaves, and by removing the stalks up to their very centres ; four or five leaves are then laid one above the other, when the upper one is smeared with shell-lime, a little moistened with water. The seeds of the *elatchee*, or cardamom, are added, together with about the fourth part of a *beetle-nut*, (that is, of the *areca*,) and, the whole being lapped up by folding the leaves over their contents, the little packet is kept together in its due form, which is usually triangular, by means of a slice of *beetle-nut*, cut into a thin wedge, so as to transfix it completely. It is common to see a whole family partaking of *paens*, the chewing of which occasions the saliva to be tintured as red as blood : they certainly are fragrant, and excellent stomachics ; but their too frequent use produces costiveness, which, in that climate, ever induces serious illness.

The saliva will not be tintured, if the *chunam*, (*i. e.* the lime,) be omitted ; hence, it is evident that the alkali produces the color from the juices contained in the *pawn*. The color thus obtained does not stain linen. Some use the *k'hut*, which is the same as our *Terra Japonica*, and is