

with a thousand bandits. Meanwhile Chen had warned the Shensi governor of the invasion, and Kuo's troops were cut to pieces. Kuo and Chen afterwards associated ; but later on Kuo tried to murder Chen ; and since then there has been war to the death between them.

In Sian, Pereira passed four mountain guns and a battalion of infantry marching eastward. The men were of good physique, but looked sullen and listless, and there was not a smile among them. They had not been paid for months, and in that state might very well mutiny and go over to the other side. They had no transport, and the mules or carts were commandeered whenever they could be got.

The civil governor gave Pereira a feast at the club, which was a good two-storied building with bedrooms in which honoured guests could be put up. There was a billiard room and bowling alley, and a nice garden. But the club had twice to be closed down owing to members failing to pay their bills.

Torture was still allowed, and four soldiers were crucified on the city wall, an extra nail being driven in at the throat, though not at a vital spot. They lingered for two days, though probably they lost consciousness after six hours.

Opium was again coming into Shensi and was grown along the Wei River. When the Chinese heard Pereira was coming they thought he would be investigating the opium conditions, and orders were issued to remove all advertisements for the sale of opium.

The Nestorian tablet for which Sian is famous