

nearly 1500 feet, two more climbs up and down spurs, Kin-shui-ho was reached. And here he found the deputy of the Yang Hsien magistrate waiting for him.

The Han River was reached on the following day. It flows through a small fertile, well-cultivated plain. Pereira now had new peas and cherries for the first time. But the fruit in China suffers greatly from the Chinese preferring quantity to quality and from their picking it before it is ripe for fear of its being stolen.

Han-chung Fu was reached on April 30. It is 243 miles from Sian, and of this distance Pereira walked $221\frac{3}{4}$ miles, that is 17 miles a day. As he approached, the city officials and soldiers dashed about reporting his progress. Eventually, hot and dusty, he arrived in the eastern suburb, but much to his disgust was there detained that he might be given an official welcome. The friendly officials insisted upon putting him up in a kung-kuan with a nice garden. But he held out stoutly against being given any feasts or presents. He afterwards heard, however, that the people had been forced to pay 300 cash for entertaining him, and this must have gone into the pocket of underlings, while Pereira would be credited with receiving it as a bribe to report favourably on the opium growing. And in spite of Government orders much opium was grown about here, the officials not only cultivating it themselves, but compelling the people to grow it for their own profit. In the previous year, when they grew too much, there was a slump in the opium market, causing heavy loss to many people.