

radiate three deep gullies—one to the east, the Lu Ho valley by which Pereira had come, one to the north to Tanpa, and one to the S.S.W. from which three roads diverge, one leading to Tauwu, one to Batang and one to Tien-wan. The population is floating and may be put at about 14,000, most of them Chinese. But there are also a good many Tibetans and many Lamas of the red sect.

The Europeans at the time of Pereira's visit consisted of Mr. Louis King, the acting British Consul, a French bishop who is head of the Tibetan Mission which has priests scattered about along the Tibetan border, Mr. and Mrs. Sorrenson of the China Inland Mission, and two members of the American Seventh Day Adventists who keep the Sabbath on a Saturday and thereby disconcert Chinese students of Christianity.

December 27 Pereira spent in making calls. And he had now his first opportunity of coming in touch with Tibetan life. He visited the big Lamasery outside the town on the Cheto road. The outer court was the scene of an annual festival which lasts three days. The officials and those of the better class sit in the balcony above whilst the crowd form a circle below. In the centre is a high pole, at the foot of which is laid a dummy devil. The monks come out arrayed in flowing garments of many colours with five skulls embroidered in front at the bottom. They wear big circular-brimmed hats with high crowns surmounted by a peacock's feather. First the living Buddha comes forward with a small bell in the left hand and sometimes a small knife in the right. He then exorcises the devil. After that two huge