

trumpets, nine or ten feet long, are blown, and he either takes part in the dance, circling in front of the devil, or retires to a seat under a gaudily embroidered white tent. The monks dance round the circle in a fantastic way, constantly whirling round and kicking up their legs, and holding in one hand a small bowl filled with grain and oil, which they scatter on the ground. On some occasions the monks come out wearing huge masks representing faces with a broad grin or animals or birds and perform for several hours. The object of the dance is to drive out the devil and ensure peace for the coming year. On the third day the dummy devil is seized and driven out.

The Chinese Commissioner, General Ch'en Hsia Ling, Pereira found to be a stern man but fond of sport, and he presented his English visitor with the horns of a blue sheep he had just shot. He rules by severity and the officials are all terrified of him.

Ta-chien-lu had for centuries been the capital of the kings of Chala. Latterly they had been under Chinese supervision. Up to the time of the Republic the present king had ruled jointly with his brother. But his people rose when the Republic was started. The king escaped by flight but his brother was executed by the Chinese. Later on, however, the king was allowed to return and exercise a nominal rule over his people till, just before Pereira's arrival, it was discovered that he was in league with brigands, and he was arrested and put in prison.

Many different tribesmen are found in Ta-