

chien-lu and they vary much among themselves. They appear to be a mixture of Tibetan, Turk, Mongol and Chinese with the aboriginal race.

The chief traffic was in tea, done up in long narrow bundles, each weighing about eighteen catties. A man carries about eight, one above the other, lengthwise, on his back.

A lawless band of Tibetan brigands occupied the country south of Litang and west of the Ya-lung River. These brigands General Ch'en could easily disperse, but if he did he would run out of ammunition and he would then be attacked by his enemy the general at Chengtu. The brigands therefore defy him.

The hills round Ta-chien-lu are said to abound in bears, roe, wapiti, serow, blue sheep, pheasants, leopard, wolves, and fox. They are bare of trees and there is none of the thick undergrowth Pereira had met with on his shooting expedition at Teng-ch'ih-kou. But he could not now spare the time necessary to find the game.

On January 7 he left Ta-chien-lu and struck up northward as it was impossible to enter Tibet directly. He had to dismiss his boy, as he discovered that he was using visiting-cards describing himself as an official travelling on official business, and evidently meant to pose as one having authority. By this means he might pretend he was travelling to inspect opium, and get bribes from officials and opium dens.

Some notes on the Chinese Pereira now recorded. The Catholic Church, he says, seems to manage natives better than others. Native priests are ordained, but a watchful eye is kept on them.