

The going was good all the next day, February 22. The hill-sides were covered with grass and scrub. At Pai-ku-ssu is a temple with 150 Tibetan monks. It is situated on the highest ground on the western side. The mud walls of the houses are painted with broad vertical red and white stripes. At  $12\frac{1}{2}$  miles Pereira reached Ra-chih-ssu, where there is a temple with 100 monks. It is situated at an altitude of 8410 feet. Here was stationed a solitary Chinese from Choni. He is director (ch'ih-hui) under the Prince of Choni, of the district which extends from the Yang-pu Shan to the T'ai-li-ho. He had been there a year and was feeling very lonely, and he put Pereira up in a nice clean room. The lamas in the temple belong to the yellow sect, and their rooms were clean and comfortable. The Tibetan women in the village wear shorts and overcoats. They dress their hair in a pigtail and oil it well. Their head-dress is a fur cap like an astrakan cap.

Pereira continued for 10 miles down the Tu-erh-kou valley on February 23. The ranges on either side rose about 2000 feet above the valley and were covered with fir and scrub and in places with cultivation. At 10 miles the path led up a stiff rise of some 1600 feet to Ku-ya, 9210 feet, a village of 30 Tibetan families, where Pereira again lodged in a clean but chilly temple. Everywhere round the hills were cut by deep valleys. The general trend of the ranges, which are about 10,000 or 11,000 feet above sea-level, is from west to east, or W.N.W. to E.S.E.

Chien-tsang,  $27\frac{1}{4}$  miles distant, was reached on February 24. First there was a steep climb of