

for $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile, and then an easy descent for the rest of the march to Chan-cha-lu, 26 miles down the valley of the Shang-ch'uan Ho. The hills were bare and rose to only from 300 to 500 feet above the valley. At Chan-chu-la 58 out of the 60 families were Mohammedan.

Descending the Shang-ch'uan valley the road improved, and two-wheeled carts drawn by one bullock were seen. The hills were only 300 or 400 feet in height and covered with grass. At $11\frac{1}{4}$ miles Minchow, 8400 feet, a town of 575 families, was reached on February 28. There were shops here and a poor inn, but the inn-keeper gave Pereira his own comfortable and clean room. Ascending the Ta'o Ho by the left bank on the following day Pereira reached Shih-ch'i at $27\frac{1}{4}$ miles. For the first 7 miles the valley was as much as 2 miles wide, and it was fertile and contained many villages of the mud huts such as are found in the North. But near Shih-ch'i it narrowed to a width of only 200 yards. Pereira passed a lady missionary going to new Tao-chow and a missionary coming from old Tao-chow.

Choni, 8880 feet, was reached on March 2, after a march of 17 miles, still up the left bank of the T'ao Ho. Some Chinese villages were passed, and others partly Chinese and partly Tibetan. Choni has 320 families, of whom about half are Chinese and half are Tibetan, but of these latter only about one-fifth are pure Tibetan. The Prince of Choni, a man of thirty, was very friendly to foreigners. He had been on very good terms with the previous Governor of the