From here Pereira made a long march of 313 miles to Hung-tao-yü-kou on March 10. For the first mile and a half the descent was through snow and frozen mud to the valley. The going was then good and free of snow. After 5 miles the T'ao Ho was reached and the road ascended the valley for 4 miles. Then the road leaves the river and ascends some small valleys with a few small villages set amid low bare hills. The road was exceedingly muddy and snow lay on the ground. At 16 miles the Chin-ku-ch'eng Shan, 7880 feet, was crossed and then the Kueihsiao P'o, 8300 feet. The road then lay down the valley to Hung-tao-yü-kou, a village of 17 families, and containing one wretched inn. The discomforts were increased by donkeys being made to share the common room. The atmosphere was appalling, and the braying chorus made up in power what it lacked in music.

Ti-tao, a town of about 17,000 inhabitants, was reached on March 11. It is 97 miles from Choni and lies at an elevation of 6800 feet. The valley of the T'ao River through which the road runs is 3 or 4 miles wide and is bounded by low hills bare of trees. Several small villages are scattered about it. Ti-tao is a go-ahead place. It is very anti-Mohammedan, and since the Mohammedan rebellions no Mohammedan has been allowed to settle on the right bank of the T'ao Ho. Kansu is a very conservative Province and wisely backward in modern education. There are not the same student troubles as in other provinces and Lan-chow is the only place in which students are prominent. Kansu still gets