

from the Drepon to say that if he was determined to go to Lhasa he could not stop him and would provide "ula". Pereira replied that he would go. And on September 3 the Drepon paid him a visit, and besides a welcome present of three tins of salmon brought with him a letter from the Kalon at Lhasa saying that he would be glad to see him at Lhasa. He brought also a belated letter of June from Major Bailey giving the result of the Derby.

"Many obstacles have blocked me", writes Pereira in his diary on September 3, "but I was determined to win through at all fair costs. And at last it looks like coming off. I would rather have died in attempting it than have chucked it up from funk. If the Government of India had said 'No', I would out of duty have chucked it. But I gather from their refusal to help me that they do not mind or will be glad if I get through on my own with the consent of the Tibetans. . . . I shall always remember that Père Schram stood out to help me at Sining-fu. He was as keen as myself for my success. How he will rub his hands if he hears I have got through."

So Pereira set about his final preparations. He enlarged the Indian map of the road from Chamdo to Lhasa, put in a lot of new detail, correcting the names of places and giving all the stages in green. But Huc's places and passes he entered in red because, though he was fairly accurate, he exaggerated the perils! Also he got both Chinese and Tibetan names of the stages.

His following now consisted of his old boy Liu, the half-caste muleteer he took on at Tangar, a