

a poor village of eleven families on a small plateau at the end of a hill dividing the Nok Chu and Ja-bu Chu valley. The length of this march was 22 miles.

Continuing up the valley of the Nok Chu, on September 28 Pereira reached A-la-dor-tu,  $18\frac{3}{4}$  miles. It was well wooded up to 14 miles and then the trees and bush got less and less till at the end of the march there was only scrub on stony hills. The going was fair for 9 miles, then stony and rocky. There was a rather steep climb of 700 feet to Ta-ké La, 15,250 feet, at  $7\frac{3}{4}$  miles. Six miles farther on the I-fü was crossed by a rickety brushwood bridge. The road then ascends the narrow stony Nok Chu valley to A-la-dor-tu, where Pereira camped at an elevation of 15,200 feet beside three nomads' tents. On this march he overtook a caravan of 150 ponies on their way from Batang to Lhasa.

Another difficult pass had to be crossed on September 29. This was the worst stage Pereira had ever been on. The going was appalling. For 4 miles the path still led up the Nok Chu valley between barren stony hills and over many rocks and boulders. Then it turned to the W.N.W. and the ascent became steeper through a veritable sea of boulders, rocks and stones in an open valley. Finally there was a steep ascent of 400 feet to the summit of the Nur-güng La, the Chor kou La of Huc. Pereira had exhausted his spirits of wine so could not use his boiling-point thermometer, but he estimates the altitude as 16,800 or perhaps 17,000 feet. On the top of the ridge and extending some 200 yards down