

country on the edge of a fertile plain. But on the following day he left this main road and marched to Tung-ch'uan-hsien, which he reached on March 21. The country was mostly undulating and well populated, and there was much poppy cultivation in spite of the interdicts on it. As before, this country also was infested with brigands, and one day he passed an enormous caravan of 1400 animals, with an escort of nearly a hundred soldiers. Rhododendrons, mostly of a deep red colour and in full bloom, he saw near Lai-t'ou-p'o, 7500 feet. And on March 20 he crossed the Chih-ch'ang Ya-k'ou at 9100 feet, the highest point he had reached in Yünnan. From here he had fine views on the left of ranges 10,000 to 13,000 feet in height, all covered with a coating of snow. The descent was very steep and the road bad, and the wind bitterly cold.

Tung-ch'uan-hsien is situated in a very fertile valley at an elevation of 7250 feet and has a population of over five thousand families. His next objective was Chao-t'ung Hsien, which he reached on March 27. Halting for a day, he left Tung-ch'uan-hsien on March 23, he himself, as usual, travelling in a chair or walking, while his baggage was carried on mules. He passed first through the fertile but somewhat swampy plain, in which were many storks and duck and a few cranes. At $7\frac{3}{4}$ miles he reached the summit of the Lung-wang-miao Kou-tzu, 8400 feet, and then passed through cultivated valleys. On March 24 he reached Yi-ch'ê-hsün, 6300 feet, a busy market town of 350 families. Here he heard that a village he had slept in five days previously had