

south-west. They are looked down on by all as a most inferior race; and without any powers of combining to resist and without any energy, they have fallen into the power of the Chinese and Nosu (Lolos). The last fight they put up was during the Mohammedan rebellion in Yünnan. They then fought both for and against the Mohammedans, but were finally crushed by the Chinese. In the north-west many have submitted to become serfs of the surrounding Nosu chiefs, and seem to have no power of resistance to the ill-treatment of their masters. Some 15,000 out of 20,000 of these Ta-hua Miao have become Church members or inquirer probationers of the United Methodist Mission.

Beyond these to the north-west are the Ch'uan or River Miao, who are so called from having come from the rivers of Szechwan. They are probably more numerous than the Ta-hua Miao, but so far only a few have been converted to Christianity. Some years ago they were raided by the independent Lolos and many were carried off as slaves. In the evenings, across the mighty waters of the Yangtze, voices singing the old Miao songs could be heard. But gradually the singing grew less and less as the slaves died, till it ceased altogether, and not one slave ever succeeded in escaping.

The independent Lolos in the old days used to be much bolder than they are now, and thirty or forty years ago they used to raid right up to Shih-men-k'an. When opium was prohibited in China the Chinese used to sell it to the Lolo chiefs, and through this they deteriorated. The serfs are