

Yangtze, and at 20½ miles he reached Ta-ching-pa, a village of 130 families, situated at an elevation of only 2411 feet on a small fertile plain by the Yangtze, which is here known as the Chin-sha Shiang or River of Golden Sand. It was here very hot and masses of flowers were in bloom on the way. Pereira especially mentions seeing quantities of a beautiful purple lily.

In this land every man's hand was against his neighbour's. Many houses have a tower to which to flee in case of Lolo raids. And every Chinese or Nosu who crosses the river requires a guarantee for his safety. The Nosu are also at feud among themselves, so a similar guarantee is required in passing from one tribe to another. Chinese merchants get a surety for protection and visit them for trade.

April 9 Pereira spent in Ta-ching-pa. In the morning he walked down the narrow street, which was now crowded for the market, and saw many of the Nosu who had come across the river. Unluckily he could not see the black Nosu, the pure bred, as they had committed a raid and carried off twenty Chinese, so were not allowed over. The Nosu Pereira saw were all of a white serf class, chiefly descendants of kidnapped Chinese and in features mostly like the Chinese. Some had trousers and some had skirts, but most wore over the shoulders the famous Nosu cloak made of felt and dark brown or black in colour. Some had cropped hair and some wore the queue tied round the head, with a piece projecting like the Nosu horn. They appeared to be a cowed race. Many were of the beaked-nose type and were probably of