

sea-level. The scenery on this march was still fine. The valley was fertile and palms and bamboos grew here. At 10 miles the Ta-kuan Ho was crossed by a double chain suspension bridge. Ta-wan-tzu is about 500 feet above the river.

Next day's march was again amidst grand scenery, the hills often rising in steep precipices. At 4 miles there was a very steep descent down rocky zigzags and the path then ran by the river for some way, afterwards ascending to Chi-li-pu, 2660 feet, at $12\frac{3}{4}$ miles. On April 20 Pereira marched $12\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Tou-sha-kuan, 2094 feet, a town of 350 families. The road still lay down the Ta-kuan Ho valley amidst grand scenery. There was much traffic, many coolies and strings of mules and ponies.

Lao-ya-t'an, now called Yen-ching Hsien, was reached on April 21. The road left the Ta-kuan Ho valley and ascended the narrow Hsiao-hu Kou valley. At 4 miles there was a steep ascent by a badly paved path to the Li-shan-ting Pass, from just below which there were glorious views to the east across a deep narrow valley bordered by hills 3000 feet high and beyond them ranges 1000 or 2000 feet higher still. The descent was very steep down a paved zigzag path, and at $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles the Ta-kuan Ho was again struck. A quarter of a mile farther the river was crossed by a quaint covered wooden plank cantilever bridge supported on either side by eight chains. At 13 miles Lao-ya-t'an was reached. It is a city of 970 families, at an elevation of 1621 feet, and straggles along the right bank of the river in a deep valley. There were only some salt boats