

Continuing all the next day down the Ta Ho, the Yangtze was reached in $21\frac{1}{2}$ miles at Fu-kuan. The Ta Ho was only a small torrent, and the valley lay between steep, well-wooded hills often rising in great precipices to a height of 1500 to 2000 feet. The path was very narrow and poorly paved and led up and down the hill-sides. Occasionally villages or farms surrounded with vegetation were seen on the hill-sides. At 7 miles the way led through the beautiful Ma-t'ang-ssu gorge, in which were some picturesque waterfalls coming from a great height. Here was one of those small stone columns with a kind of devil's head which Pereira had noticed on the Tibetan border all the way from Kansu to this place. From here the path winds along the hill-side and through gorges till the Yangtze is approached. At 21 miles the Ta-wan Ch'i is crossed by a ferry, and half a mile farther on is Fu-kuan, a town of 3000 inhabitants, at an elevation of 1044 feet.

From Fu-kuan Pereira had hoped to have made a trip to Lei-po, but the Nosus had last May seized seventy Chinese on the road to it and sold forty of them as slaves in the interior. The Chinese authorities were accordingly fighting with these Nosus and travelling would not be safe.

Instead Pereira made a trip of $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles on April 28 to Ma-yi-ssu (Ping-yi-ch'ang), which is the real head of Yangtze navigation. From Fu-kuan he ascended the right bank of the river, which is here about 100 yards wide, muddy and of a strong current with several small rapids. The going was easy and the scenery pretty, the red sandstone sloping hills from 500 to 800 feet high being fairly