

town on the 27th. This he found to be a fine city of 90,000 inhabitants and the chief mercantile town of Tonquin. The French Resident, Monsieur Krautheimer, very kindly sent on board an invitation to Pereira to come and stay with him, and in the evening took him for a drive round the city. The well laid out streets and fine buildings were a revelation to him. The city is built on marshy ground reclaimed, and is a monument of French capacity and infinite patience and ingenuity. There were nice French houses and small gardens, and a fine war memorial, and small, very well kept Botanical Gardens, with a few animals. Pereira had not expected to find such a flourishing place, and in many respects it impressed him favourably, even in comparison with Hong-Kong. The hotels and cafés were more attractive, though the buildings in Hong-Kong were larger and the natural surroundings were more beautiful.

Hanoi he reached on June 29 and called at once on Monsieur Monjuillot, the Résident Supérieur of Tonquin. And here again Pereira was struck with the genius of the French in building a city. He thought it the best laid out city in the East, and better than Saigon. Though it has not the huge buildings of Shanghai it has fine broad boulevards. The French, he thought, were better than we are in laying out a city.

To Yünnan he proceeded by night train from Hanoi. Lao Kay was reached the next morning, and here the railway crosses the Nam Ti in the Yünnan province. The railway ascends the mountains by a series of loops and many tunnels and