

On September 6 Pereira marched  $19\frac{1}{4}$  miles to Sung-shih. The Mekong flows through a deep valley between bare desolate hills. There was a steep winding climb for  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles to the top of Ku-la, 8655 feet. Then the path wound up and down along the hill-side. At  $7\frac{1}{4}$  miles is Jung, a scattered village of about sixty-five houses. From there a well-graded path led to Tang-ku-güng at  $10\frac{1}{2}$  miles. The Ka-go-bo mountain could be just seen from here bearing  $198^\circ$ . There was some snow on its sides, but the peak was not visible. Farther on there was a steep descent to a gully, then a slight rise to Sung-ting at  $17\frac{3}{4}$  miles, and down to cross a torrent and a short rise to Sung-shih, 7126 feet. Here many villagers came out to meet Pereira, bringing presents of fruit and cakes.

The hills were now higher, and many spurs had sharp razor blades. They were mostly bare in the Mekong valley, but there were sometimes trees high up in the side valleys.

Pa-mei (Chinese Pa-mi), 14 miles, was reached on September 8. The path was fair and lay near the river. At 3 miles was Na-pu. At one point there was a good piece of scaffolding to support planks for a roadway against sheer rocks. At 12 miles there was a very steep climb to Pa-mei, 8381 feet, which was hidden in a small fertile fold high up on the hill-side. It is a village of twenty-five families. The weather was fine and hot in the middle of the day, but windy in the afternoon. Pereira noted a number of beautiful little blue flowers growing out of small bushes. There was a snow range visible not far back on the opposite