

Their ruined towers may be seen nearly up to Yakalo. Two or three centuries ago they extended their conquests beyond Yakalo up to Garthok, Batang and Litiang, but none are now found north of Yakalo.

The wild lawless tribes south of Litiang are the Hsiang-ch'eng (Tibetan Sia-chera-wa). They have their headquarters farther south at Sang-pi-Ling on the Lamaya River. The tribes who hold up the road north of Batang to Kanze are the Leng-ka-shi. They are under a Lama. North of the Tibetan frontier, which is some 10 miles south of Sama, the country is peaceful.

Chinese soldiers did not venture more than a dozen miles north of Batang. There were no Chinese soldiers west of Pa-mu-t'ang on the Batang-Yakalo road. The Batang garrison was about three hundred strong. Of these one hundred were employed on the road east towards Litiang, some twenty at Batang, and the rest were scattered along the road south and south-west up to Pa-mu-t'ang (Bum). But these soldiers could effect very little, and the Nanka (Lanka) Lama's bands were raiding across the Yangtze. The Gunka Lama had again recently come to terms with the Chinese and was practically independent at Tsong-su (Chung-ai). The official at Garthok, the Markham Ti-jei, had twice sent his soldiers across the frontier. About a fortnight previously fifteen Tibetan soldiers came to Yakalo and greatly alarmed the people, as they did some looting. The magistrate suggested to Pereira that he should ask the Garthok official to stop sending men over the border. There was a band of twenty