

murders of Europeans. The possibility of further conflict could not therefore be ruled out.

The Chinese garrison at Batang consisted of some three hundred soldiers, who were mostly stationed on the road south up to Kung-tzu-ting, 39 miles off. Only twenty or thirty were in Batang itself. There was a garrison to the east at Litang, and to the south there were some eighty men at A-tun-tzu. The officers of these troops were practically all opium-smokers. The men apparently did nothing and they were all married to Tibetan wives. Before the present extreme chaos resulted the Chinese soldiers wanted wives. The Tibetans brought the old women. The Chinese said they wanted young girls. The Tibetans under compulsion brought the young girls, but swore to be avenged when the occasion arose. They lay outside Litang capturing and killing every small Chinese detachment and carrying off their rifles. In this way they killed over seventy Chinese.

Eastern Tibet under Chinese rule comprised kings (debo) at Derge and Tachienlu, prefects (deba) at Batang and Litang, the five tributary races of Horpa, namely Changko, Berim, Chu-wo, Nyarong or Chantiu. The governor was appointed from Lhasa till the country was subdued by Chao-Erh-feng. Chamdo was under the (?) pa-pa Lama, Draya was under another Lama, Markham, that is Lower Kham, was, as at present, under a sub-governor or ti-jei. The other states north and west, *e.g.* the king (debo) of Nangchen, were under the Koko Nor administration.

Pereira had now to prepare for the most difficult and most risky part of his present journey—