

wide and 2 feet deep. He camped on an open grass slope.

A narrow valley leads from here to the Gungrei La, with the snow-clad Chei-gung-tung-sei, which must be some 20,000 feet in height, on the north side of the pass and about 10 miles off. A path leads over the Gungrei La to a point near Teichman's Sodong on the road north from Batang to Bei-yu. The grassland starts from the Ding Chu valley, and Pereira surmised that it might extend northward all the way to Mongolia.

His next march was 15 miles to camp on the Shara Chu. Forging the Ding Chu at half a mile to the right bank, he continued up the grassy and often rocky and marshy valley for 7 miles to the Chago La, 14,981 feet, the divide between the Ding Chu and Li Chu. This is quite a low saddle on a spur from the Pic Desgoudins range. The main range is farther east, and Shara Chu takes its rise between the main range and the side range and so starts in a N.N.E. course.

This pass is also the boundary between Batang and the Wa-shi country. So after five days of anxiety in the brigand-infested area of Batang he emerged into what he believed to be a peaceful country, and having got through the worst part in safety his mind was greatly relieved.

On the far side he continued down another grassy valley between bare grass hills with a tributary of the Shara Chu on the right. At  $12\frac{3}{4}$  miles he had a fine view of the snowy Nai-ya on the main Ga-mu-ni range, about 6 miles off to the south-east. Like all these Batang and Mekong mountains, it appeared to be about