



Sarts and Chinese imprisoned for various crimes, chained hand and foot to heavy logs and iron bars and with a board round their necks.

water, with which to wipe the sweat from your face. The food is heavy and difficult to digest. It is alleged that in choosing such eccentric dishes the sensual Chinese are mainly inspired by the wish to increase their virility.

The mandarin Pyn is a man of 45—50 of intelligent and pleasant appearance. As all mandarins do, he carries politeness to excess, but is more a man of the world than most of those I have met. Like almost the whole administration of Kashgaria he comes from Khunnan. He escorted us to our carriage with great courtesy and a salute of three guns was fired as we stepped on to the platform of boards that I have described.

I had some difficulty in selecting a suitable present for him in exchange for a sheep and some maize, rice and hay that he had sent me with his card on my arrival, and as a token of gratitude for the soldier who had so kindly been posted at my gate, possibly as much to keep an eye on me as out of politeness. Hesitating between imitation brooches, cheap mirrors, small musical boxes etc., I decided on two copies of Motussovsky's map of China and a magnifying glass. The old man seemed pleased and said it was something that could not be bought for any money. He showed me a Chinese atlas, evidently a copy of a European one, but very imperfect.

October 29th. The mandarin returned my call yesterday and found my room and the sarai with its
Yarkand. arguing and shouting Sart merchants so wanting in comfort that he ordered his people to find better quarters for me at once. To-day I moved to the house of a Sart Beg, a kind of local administrative functionary. His house is in a quiet part of the town and is very pleasant with its latticed woodwork and its overgrown garden, shaded by creepers. I have been given an oblong room with two windows on to the garden, unfortunately very dark owing to the close wooden grating, and an opening in the ceiling. It is cold and damp in spite of a multitude of beautiful many-coloured carpets of local make. Ljo and my new