



*A Chinese gambling table one morning outside the principal temple in Yarkand.*

To indicate the size of salaries I can mention the following: the Taotai in Kashgar receives 3,000 lan annually and 700 lan for his yamen (living quarters, chancellery etc. with a numerous staff); the Titai in Yangi-Shahr 3,800 lan and 700 for travelling expenses; the Shaitai in Kashgar (a colonel with an independent command of infantry and cavalry) 700 lan in salary and 600 for travelling; the District Commander in the large Yarkand district which extends to the frontiers of Russia, Afghanistan and India and embraces Karghalik and Guma, receives a salary of 800 lan and 700 for his yamen. If we go outside the hierarchy, we come to a sanguan (company commander) who has 25 lan as his monthly salary and 8 lan for his company and a sanguan bambanj (subaltern) with 8 lan and 5 tchen (copper coins) a month. All the lower guardians of local government receive no pay, but live on their districts. Most of the numerous staff employed in the mandarin's yamen receive either no pay or an absolutely ridiculous pay, and yet all these posts are so sought after that comparatively large amounts are paid for them. The Turki interpreters employed by a mandarin are among the most important people of the place and are certainly not among those who cost the population least.

Not long ago Yarkand was visited by a young mandarin who was sent by the Dzian Dziun in Urumchi to inspect the 8 towns of Kashgaria. He was expected for three days, which caused the local mandarins a good deal of inconvenience, as they are bound to meet him outside the town with a military escort. The inspection was said to be due to a complaint lodged by 9 Sarts in the Kashgar district in connection with the mandarin's actions. In evidence of how impossible it was for people to live under the existing conditions it was pointed out that many Sarts had taken refuge by becoming Russian subjects. Here, at all events, the inspector's investigation seems to have been extremely superficial. The only place he visited was the school in the yamen, where he made the children read Chinese

*November 17th.  
Yarkand.*