



*A Chinese cavalryman
on the way from Maral
Bashi to Yangi-Shahr in
10—12 degrees of frost.*

suffice for finding and shooting a number of wild boar. The river forms a very wide delta here, thickly overgrown with reeds as high as a horse. Here and there you find hillocks that afford an excellent view of the whole landscape. The country between the bends of the river is wild and overgrown with bushes and thickets. In some places the dry ground is so porous that the horses sink into it as in a bog and it is difficult to advance on foot, leading your horse. It was quite a business to bring in a wild boar that had been shot. None of the Mohammedans would touch it. To get the tusks sawn off, the carcass divided and despatched to Kashgar as a present to the Russian consul and the Swedes proved simply impossible. At last I came across a Chinese, who undertook the job, but unhappily a dog ran off with one of the tusks, while the entrails were being removed.

Ordeklik is a village of 100 houses, of which, however, only a few are situated in the village itself along the road. The population seems to be poor, the cattle few, the field area about 5 mou per household. In order to increase the field area the inhabitants are digging a long ariq from Lung-kou. This year a Beg has been stationed in the village. Wheat, maize, cotton and melons are grown. Wheat yields a 15—20 fold crop, maize 40 fold. Cattle are said to be sent here from Kashgar to graze. There are 10—12 northerly storms annually, lasting 2—3 days.

February 5th. The country that the road runs across is flat, though there are frequent small, but often steep sandhills overgrown with trees and bushes. The low trees growing on the *Qara Kichin* hillocks are of medium size here. I followed the road for a distance of about 1 paotai and then, with yesterday's hunter, I turned west, i.e., to the N, in order to rejoin the high-road after making a wide circuit a couple of paotai before reaching the village of *Qara Kichin*. After riding for about 3/4 of an hour to the NE we passed a channel, where a river