RECORDS OF THE JOURNEY



Inj din sy ruins near the village of Kainak, S of Qulja. Easternmost building of the ruins.

In the square ruin the most massive walls were about 1 3/4-2 metres thick at the base. In some places they rose to a height of 2 1/2 metres. They were built of bricks and masses of slightly flat bricks were lying in the middle of the courtyard. Here and there we saw pieces of glazed tiles, blue, green and yellow, of the same kind as I had seen near Qulja. Fragments of clay vessels were rare, those I saw being grooved and of comparatively fine quality. There was an outhouse beyond the S wall of the ruin. Indistinct remains of walls were visible S of a slight rise in the ground that enclosed the S part of the ruin, like a kind of earthwork. — The round ruin was built less carefully, the walls were of clay, about 1 1/4 m at the base. It was intersected by the remains of a wall, from which we noticed faint small projections. In the NW there were two small ruins. N of the ruin there was an annexe with remains of many small rooms. — The ruins of the wall run parallel, quite close to a rise in the ground which continues in a westerly direction, as though it was intended to be carried on to a town about 4 miles to the N, which it also enclosed. The W part of the wall was better preserved than the E part. Fields came up to the foot of the wall and it will certainly not be long before the remaining parts of the wall are demolished. It is built of clay, about 1 1/4 m at the base, and in many places has crumbled away.

We rode from the N end of the village almost due E, guided by our host. On the right, May 3rd. close to the edge of the village, a kurgan could be seen, rather smaller than the one we Qulja. visited yesterday to the south of the village. This one, too, is said by the local population to be the remains of Kalmuk dwellings. About a mile E of the northern end of the village we came to an embankment, about 1 1/2 metres high, encircling a round piece of ground 150-200 metres in diameter. The place is called Kungtaidji kul and the story goes that there was a pond here once, in the waters of which under the shade of the trees the Kalmuk khans were fond of taking a cooling bath in the heat of the summer. The massive embankment, still well preserved, is undoubted evidence of there having been a water reservoir