

by the customary rectangular fortress wall. Its length is about 200 fathoms on each side, its height 17 feet; there is no moat or protected area outside, but it has a crenellated parapet. Three double gates of baked bricks face E, S and W. The thickness of the wall is 18 yards in the gateway. The greater part of the space inside the wall is empty. A single street connects the E and W gates.

A Shenguan resides in the town and a garrison of a cavalry in («tsuoy yin») is stationed there. It belongs to the «Sepiao» troops and consists of 40 men at present. The town was built 22 years ago, but the district was only established recently. It extends from Kan tjan pkho in the W to Sy'shi li tienza in the E and embraces about 40 villages. The principal villages are Yu shu gou in the NW, Nanganza (about 70 houses, all Dungan) in the S, Sy'she khu, Tã gung, Pingkhu, Thu taid za and Tsy ni tchuenza in the E etc. Altogether the district embraces about 1700 houses, of which 600 are Chinese, 700—800 Dungan and 300 Sart. An average of 5—6 people per household can be reckoned. The villages were cultivated, but a great many of them had been destroyed during the Dungan revolt and ruins of abandoned dwellings can be seen everywhere. When the province was reconquered, land was given to many of the soldiers, including the Fukang district. These old warriors, numbering several hundred, form the nucleus of the Chinese population of the district.

In the town itself there are about 1000 inhabitants in 300 houses. There are 13 shops and 3 sarais. The bazaar outside the E gate of the town wall contains about 20 shops, all very small. Farming is the principal occupation in the district. 1800 hu (of 120 djin) of grain are levied annually in taxes.

I started with a heavy heart this morning. The new cook whom I had not had time to test in Urumchi and had to take on trust, has proved quite incapable. Neither yesterday nor to-day was I able to eat anything and my men also complain of the bad cooking. The road leads in an E direction, at first through the suburb close to the town wall, past the lianza impanj on the right and then between detached houses on either side. The landscape is of the same character as the country we passed through yesterday and the day before, tilled fields with very shady trees and bushes. We crossed a slight watercourse now and then. All the bridges are bad and the road runs alongside them. The watercourses are so small, however, that they scarcely present any serious obstacle at any time of the year.

*August 28th.  
Tju jundie  
village.*

The village of Tju jundie, the bazaar of which is situated in an abandoned impanj, is about 5 miles distant and 1/3 of a mile further on we pitched our camp in a cluster of trees, quite close to the road. Tju jundie contains 30 Chinese, 3 Sart and 10 Dungan houses and was built 40 years ago. 3 shops. I decided to stop here and wait for Lukanin, whom I had sent back to the town in order, if possible, to find Izmail. Our camping place was attractive and we were pleased to have turned our backs once more on an evil smelling Chinese town. Through the trees I caught sight of an endless line of camels gliding past with their silent gait. There were hundreds of them, laden with tea from Kuku Khoto and Kucheng to Urumchi.

Towards evening we realised the boggy nature of the place, and although the temperature was not low, we felt the cold severely during the night owing to the damp air.