

in the oasis. Wheat, cotton and apples are grown. The output is said to amount annually to about 1,700 tan of grain, 20,000 djin of cotton and 10,000 djin of grapes. — Grain is purchased from other places (?). III. Tchuankr (Ehrgung in Chinese) with a few dozen houses. It produces about 1,200 tan of grain. III. Shuga? IV. Lamjin. Produces 2,400 tan of grain and (according to Chinese statistics) 300,000 djin of cotton. V. Sirkip with 102 houses (7 Chinese, 4 Dungan), 10 li in length. Annually 5,000 djin of cotton, 20,000 djin of grapes and 2,000 tan of gaolyan. VI and VII. Sypansu and Dykhansu which together form the oasis of Lukchun with about 2,500 houses, 42 shops (10 Dungan, 7 Chinese). Cotton, grapes, hemp, kunsjut, wheat and gaolyan are grown. The annual output amounts to 100,000 djin of cotton, 200,000 djin of grapes, 34,000 tan of grain. The stock of cattle is said to be not large (?). VIII. Subashi with a couple of dozen (40?) houses and 150 inhabitants. IX. Toyuk with 370 houses and 1,200 inhabitants and 6 shops. Produces 500,000 djin of grapes. X. Chik-tam.

The annual taxes of the district are said to amount to 7,000 tan of grain and 27,000 lan (?). Cotton, raisins and hemp are sold. — As regards minerals in the district, there is supposed to be coal at Kok Yar. It is said that there is gold in a gorge in the Ja'rsan (Kok Yar?) mountains, near Semityenza. There is supposed to be a road through this gorge to Mutikhö (Morokho) on the »peilu» road. S of Lukchun there is said to be stone (crystal?), white and smoke-coloured, that is used for spectacles.

*October 5th.* To the NE the Pichan oasis extends 3 1/2 miles from the town. The landscape is the same all along. Single houses, clumps of trees, and fields in which there is less gaolyan than, for instance, at Lamjin, but hemp is very general. Here and there a group of houses. The trees are far more scattered than in other oases that I have seen. Beyond the cultivated area there is loose sand, the surface of which very soon becomes covered with gravel and fairly firm. The ground slopes to the N and NW, forming a long, slight valley parallel to our road.

4 miles from the edge of the oasis we crossed a dry water-channel that goes in a S—N direction. Near it, about a mile to the left of the road, stands a house, from which a narrow belt of trees runs to the edge of the oasis. We rode close to a long chain of very low gravel hills on the right, which, after a gap, form a sort of continuation of the yellow sand-hills E and SW of Pichan. 3 1/2 miles from the river bed we passed a sarai on the left with a couple of patches of field, situated at the foot of the ruin of some kind of signalling tower built on the crest of a gravel hill. After a short and very sandy stretch the ground on the left of the road was covered with sparse reeds. 4 miles from the sarai there is grass on both sides of the road. 1 1/3 miles further on we rode through two groups of houses of a small village, »Baka karez», about 1/2 mile from the road. 5 miles further, on the right of the road, there was another ruin like the first. On the left we saw a small village, Tugez karez, in the valley with 4 houses in two groups. A few miles later we came to a much larger village, Karez, in the same valley. A mile from the tower, in a semicircular curve of the hills on the right, lies the village of Taze with 10 houses and a mazar. The road now took us among sand and gravel hills. 2 1/2 miles further on we again passed a couple of houses and a mazar enclosed on both sides of the road by small sand-hills. At a distance of a few miles we