

a mile higher up, flows past it in the same direction as the Bei li ho. Immediately afterwards we crossed 4 branches of the Bei li ho, the largest being 10 fathoms wide, the others less broad. Depth about 0.35 m, bottom firm with small stones, current swift. During heavy rain it occasionally stops traffic for a couple of days. A little village, Shui mo Kuan, of 10 tja with extensive ruins of destroyed houses, lies on the opposite bank. Close to it stand the ruins of the impanj wall of the village of Hsitche, also sacked during the Dungan revolt. Our course took us away from the river which flows to the ENE, while we travelled ESE. On the left of the road the ground was flat and low, extending to the river. On the right the ground ascended to a slight ledge. Both sides were cultivated and sparsely populated. There were only a few single trees near the houses.

With the exception of the beds of the rivers the road had so far been only slightly stony, but now it became exceedingly so. Though the surface of the ground was almost entirely free from stones, the sunken road was full of large blocks that might have been rolled into it. Our goal for the day, the town of Yung Chang, lay 20 li from Shui mo Kuan and 60 li from our starting-point. N of it there is a gap in the mountain to make room for the bed of the river. In this gap there are two tall conical clay columns surrounded by fairly large groups of houses. They might be taken for factories with chimneys and workmen's dwellings. The side of the mountain on the left bank of the river is decorated with about twenty small clay buildings, in various shades of red, if, indeed, these clay huts can be called a decoration. There is said to be a monastery there.

Yung Chang is the seat of the Shenguan of the district and his assistant, the prison governor. In the W the district extends to the village of Hsin-Cheng-tzu, 70 li distant from here and slightly S of the highway; in the E to Pa chenging, 80 li distant and likewise S of the highway; in the N to the village of Ning Yuan about 190 li distant. The areas in the E and W are controlled by a lungguan each, while those in the N and S are managed by a Shang-ja each. Besides there is a so-called »lao yen» in every village.

In the W 5 pa with 13 villages and 860 tja 500 oxen, 400 horses, 500 donkeys, 3,000 sheep and a yearly crop of 11,600 tan;

E	}	10	»	»	25	»	»	1840	»	700 oxen, 1,000 horses, 500 donkeys, 4,000 sheep and a yearly crop of 20,975 tan;
NE										
S	}	—	»	»	7	»	»	540	»	300 oxen, 300 horses, — donkeys, 2,000 sheep and a yearly crop of 7,756 tan;
N			4	»	»	7	»	»	645	»

(including the village of Ning Yuan in the mountains).

Wheat, barley, tchinkho, millet (grows badly), huma and peas are grown in the district. In the areas near the river the crop is said to be 8 fold; further off 5—6 fold. The annual taxes amount to 5,375 tan. Originally the taxes amounted to 7,000 tan, but were reduced owing to poor harvests.

The town covers almost 2/3 of a square mile. A kulo tower stands in the centre, its great size the more striking since the other buildings in the town are mere hovels, even