



Street life in Lianchow.

Each pa has its Shang-ja, subordinated to 6 lungguans (1 and 2 tchy are controlled by a lungguan). Wheat, tchinkho, peas, huma and opium (a good deal in some parts) and some millet are grown. The crop is 6 fold (in a good harvest 8), in some parts only 3—4 fold. The best soil is in the north. The taxes are said to amount to 48,000 tan for the district, although in recent years only 38,000 have been levied. — A Djentai, an infirm man of 70 has his headquarters in the town. During my stay he was replaced by one of 50 odd who was stronger, indeed, but just as uneducated. His district included the Hsietais at Yung Chang and Ping fan, altogether 35 battalions.

*January 22nd.* It was a foggy day when we started this morning. The thermometer stood at  $-8^{\circ}$  R, but when we had ridden for about an hour, the sun broke through the clouds and it grew so warm that we felt inclined to throw off our furs.

*Chingpienyi village.*

The ground E of the town was almost as stony as on the W. Close to the gate of the suburb we crossed the wide gravel bed of the Yungtiapa ho. The road ran SE and led for 2—3 miles through cultivated country with scattered houses, but practically no trees. Here again the road crossed a gravel bed coming from the SSE, about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a mile wide. A third of a mile beyond we rode across two gravel beds lying next to each other, about a mile in width. The village of San-shih-li-pu with 30—40 houses lay  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a mile further on. Several inns, in which cups of steaming lapsha were served, indicated that this was a popular place of refreshment. For a couple of miles we proceeded over very stony tilled land; then again we came to a gravel bed, about  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a mile wide. A mile or two beyond we came to the village of Tahöje with about 30 houses. For a couple of hours we rode over similar flat ground, often very stony though tilled, and submerged during part of the year. We passed the village of Hotingpu and a mile or two beyond Lupatuntzu, both small. 2 or 3 miles to the SE lay the little village of Chilipo, and 2 miles beyond we reached