



*Main street of Lanchow.*

schools here were furnished, opened and conducted for 2 years under the supervision of the Taotai Jang, who has now been entrusted with the same task at Urumchi. He is a graduate of the academy in Peiping and is generally respected at Lanchow. The premises of the military school are very beautiful, the large courtyards, surrounded by one-storeyed buildings, being kept tidy. Two long wings enclose a courtyard that is cut up into two or more parts by transverse buildings, a couple of which have in the course of time become two-storeyed. The transverse buildings contain large, light class-rooms and dining rooms. The furniture consists of long wooden tables in their natural colour and benches for 3 or 4 pupils. There is a raised dais for the master, with a table, chair and large blackboard. There is no heating. The walls are decorated with numerous coloured paper illustrations, mostly of a warlike nature, but also zoological and botanical, or else representing famous people, gymnastic tables, maps etc. In one of the dining rooms only episodes of the last Russo-Japanese war are depicted, in another pictures of the investment of Port Arthur and the war on land. It is scarcely necessary to add that the feats of the Japanese are depicted in not too modest a manner. In the pictures showing the different rulers of the world the Mikado or the King of England or the Emperor of China are always enthroned on a couple of armchairs, while the rulers of the great European powers stand modestly behind them and the Emperor of Russia often supports the back of the Mikado's chair. The gymnastic tables depict men in Japanese uniforms, the zoological and botanical tables have Japanese captions etc. A long paper scroll represents the greatest and most famous men of the world, quite a hundred heads in the form of medallions, six of which are of large size, with a Japanese at the top, then a Japanese and Napoleon side by side, below them Confucius and Christ, and finally another Japanese. The upper half of the small medallions consists entirely of Japanese heads, while the rest contains the philosophers, generals, statesmen etc. of other nations.