

Ma-ga-lian told me that he was not sure of the number of Dungans in the Hochow district, nor whether they were more numerous there than in the neighbourhood of Sining. He estimated their farming population at not less than 60,000 tja. The district mandarin placed the total population at about 300,000 (tja?) and considered that 50 % were Chinese. The information that a Chinese in my service obtained at Lanchow is as follows, though I consider that it is greatly exaggerated and that the figures for taxes and crops are not in a normal proportion to each other.

The Hochow district is said to be divided into the following 17 tchi for purposes of taxation, each one being administered by a Shang-ja with a crowd of lower officials under him for the different villages.

		Annual grain production	Cattle	Horses	Don- keys	Mules
From the town						
W Hochowtchi	..... 22,000 tja	210,000 tan	18,000	10,000	15,000	8,000
Liutitchi	..... 18,000 »	170,000 »	15,000	12,000	12,000	11,000
Tchytitchi	..... 20,000 »	200,000 »	16,000	8,000	17,000	7,000
Han-chai-chi	..... 13,000 »	160,000 »	8,000	7,000	10,000	
Shuangtchentchi	.. 17,000 »	170,000 »	12,000	8,000	15,000	10,000
Ingtitchi	..... 13,000 »	170,000 »	10,000	7,000	12,000	8,000
S Luotitchi	..... 23,000 »	220,000 »	12,000	10,000	18,000	12,000
Ninghotchi	..... 22,000 »	270,000 »	14,000	10,000	18,000	10,000
Tchitjatchi	..... 18,000 »	190,000 »	13,000	8,000	15,000	12,000
Meitjatchi	..... 24,000 »	280,000 »	13,000	10,000	17,000	17,000
E Santjatchi	..... 16,000 »	210,000 »	13,000	8,000	14,000	15,000
Tangwang chuatchi	16,000 »	180,000 »	13,000	12,000	14,000	15,000
Sonanpa tchi	..... 10,000 »	120,000 »	8,000	5,000	10,000	8,000
Kaza pa tchi	..... 13,000 »	140,000 »	10,000	6,000	10,000	8,000
Pingshantchi	.... 17,000 »	160,000 »	10,000	5,000	12,000	7,000
N Pei ta tchi	..... 38,000 »	370,000 »	20,000	17,000	20,000	16,000
Husypu tchi	..... 27,000 »	320,000 »	13,000	10,000	18,000	16,000

The annual tax levied in the district is said to amount to 23,000—24,000 tan of grain and 14,000 taels of silver. 100,000 tan of grain are constantly kept in store. The amount of the tax appears to be correct. According to the statement of the jai, about 23 per cent of the sowings are levied in tax. If the crop is estimated at 5 in the N, 10 in the S, 4 in the W and 3 in the E, the average crop should be 5 fold. The harvest would then be about 24 times the size of the tax. — The stock of cattle seems to be exaggerated. About 50 % of the population are said to possess no cattle. The rest, it is true, have a very varying stock, but there are no large herds. — Judging by what I saw, the number of inhabitants seems to be exaggerated. The town population is stated to be 1,180 tja in the Chinese town and 70—80,000 inhabitants (almost exclusively Dungans) in the suburb. The latter contains 12 mosques.