

ing. This was the highest point for the day. (Barometer No. 1 581.8.) The view, which was fairly unrestricted, displayed on all sides a panorama of mountains with a multitude of ridges rising one beyond the other interminably. They appeared to be of about the same height as the one we had climbed and had the same smooth, rounded lines. After an easy descent lasting a few minutes we reached the village of Panlung pu at the beginning of a new valley, where we stopped for the night, after riding about 22 miles.

A great difference is noticeable in the vegetation between the valleys near Tsingshui and especially near Tsinchow and the small hills, on which we were. Here the shoots were only just beginning to appear and the trees still showed no sign of green, whereas down in the valleys everything was luscious and green. — An untilled grassy belt runs constantly along the crests of the mountains and ridges, but scarcely any grazing cattle are to be seen. The country seems to be very poor in cattle and those we saw were miserable. The cows were often no taller than donkeys. We saw an ox and a donkey harnessed together to a plough and they got on excellently.

Panlung pu consists of 55 houses, of which 5 or 6 are inhabited by Dungans. The livestock amounts to 100 head of cattle, 100 horses, 100 mules, 100 donkeys and 2—300 sheep. Hemp, wheat, barley, tchinkho, peas, beans, oats, potatoes, millet, tchumiza, mustard, maize and a little opium are grown. Average crop 5—6 fold. — The prevailing winds are easterly. They were said to be high in the 2nd and 3rd months. Snow falls from the 10th to the 2nd month and melts usually in 2 or 3 days. Rain between the 2nd and 10th months. There is heavy rain in the 6th and 7th months.

*April 19th.* We started eastward from the village along the narrow valley in which it lay. A little stream purred at our feet. The mountains on either side were low, with long slopes. The valley dips slightly to the E. Just after passing the small village of Tsao tja pu with 12 houses the direction became NE. The mountains were getting higher and the slopes, which had grown steeper, were covered with birch woods. A mile or two beyond we came to a broader valley opening to the south. It obviously drains off the water supplied by our stream, for a short distance further on we crossed a river, 4 fathoms wide and of no great depth, that flowed southward. The valley grew wider for a time, but narrowed again after we had passed Malupuku on the right, a big gorge in a N—S direction. It was apparently connected with the valley on our right.

Our course was now E. We rode through the village of Chang-ning, containing 30 houses. The mountains were already so steep that only the lowest parts of the slopes were tilled. All the folds in the ground were wooded. A great many pheasants were visible and still more could be heard cackling and piping. Clouds came up and a light rain began to fall.

*April 18th.* After running in an easterly direction for 2 1/2 miles the road turned SE. The rise in the ground grew very perceptible. The trees and thickets that had descended to the bottom of the valley since the last village, grew ever denser and prevented our seeing more than a few yards in front of us. The ground was more and more inclined to be marshy, and we had to make détours to avoid wet places. Big blocks of stone had been