

desecrate his grave. We passed the following villages: 20 li (from Lintung) Sinfeng Cheng with 80 houses; 30 li Siho with 8; 40 li Linku with 90 on the Linku ho, also very small; 55 li Shetien with 10; and 65 li Lanchiapu with 8.

We reached the town of Weinan hsien after riding 80 li. The place is celebrated for the fact that the Dungan revolt first broke out there. An old Chinese told me that the cause consisted in constant quarrels and fights over manure that the Dungans took from the Chinese. In order to put a stop to this the mandarin of the district had threatened to execute 10 Dungans for every Chinese that was killed, but only to behead one Chinese for every Dungan killed. As this did not help, he declared that the life of a Dungan was not worth more than a donkey and that for every Dungan killed he would have a Chinese donkey destroyed. This was more than the Dungans could tolerate. They came over from the northern bank of the river and pillaged the villages of the Chinese on several occasions. They created such a panic that the mere news that they had crossed the river was sufficient to empty the Chinese villages and make the inhabitants seek shelter in the mountains. Constant watch was kept on a hill, so that the people could be warned by a shot that the Dungans were crossing the river. — After 7 months of devastation Chinese troops arrived with guns under the command of a general and the Dungans were forced to seek safety by fleeing to Kan Su, whence they never returned.

The town population amounts to 600—700 tja, the population of the district to 30—50,000 tja. Wheat, different kinds of peas, mustard, maize, cotton, tchingmi (?), rice, hemp, opium, beetroot and lucerne are grown. Average crop 10—12 fold. The manufacture of straw hats and various kinds of basket-work are specialities of the district. — Snow between the 10th and 2nd months (sometimes up to the 4th), but it does not lie. Plenty of rain between the 3rd and 9th months.

2 or 3 li E of the town we reached the foot of the ridge. The road climbed a little way up its slope by a solid stone gate built on the ledge. About  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a mile further north the Wei ho described a couple of sharp curves. Soon we came down the slope again. There had been light rain during the night. The road was dirty and slippery in parts, but the air was considerably clearer than during the past few days. After 22 li we crossed a small river, the Che shui ho, flowing northward, by a high, arched, splendid old stone bridge. Part of the solid stone slabs of the balustrade had fallen down. The carvings on the remaining ones were so worn that it was difficult to distinguish what they represented. A village, named after the river, lay on both sides. *May 16th.*  
*Hwai miao*  
*village.*

The hills in the S gradually retreated more and more. Instead, the mountain range stood out more clearly. Soon it was scarcely a dozen miles from the road. The slopes were grassy and appeared to be very steep. The rugged outlines of the mountain chain were far more picturesque than those of the mountains we saw on the way between Lanchow and Si-an-fu. When the sun broke through the clouds, we beheld a smiling and beautiful landscape with numerous groves of shady trees that looked like small woods. The lush verdure was interrupted time after time by the flowers, at times bright, at others dark