

except those in the service of the »Könn wu tu«, is conversant with the details in reality, and no information can be obtained from them, especially now that they are perturbed by an audit prescribed by the Emperor, numerous changes of staff etc. I quote them, however, as they might possibly be supplemented or might themselves supplement future information.

In the district of the Shihtzu wang, about 150 li NNW of Kweihwa ting, an area of about 180 li E—W and 20 li N—S is being settled. It is said to extend from the Hsyutchow lamasery in the W to the Shihtzu wang residence in the E. It is said to have been populated by Chinese for a long time, but has been settled more energetically in recent years with people from Chihli, Shantung and Honan.

In the district of the Djungar wang in Ordos and probably, too, in the districts of some of the other 7 princes of Ordos, seeing that the settlement is said to extend to Yulin fu, Chinese leased large areas in the past, paying 200 cash per 100 mou per year. All this, as well as all the land cultivated by Mongols, is now said to have been surveyed and 3.7 taels per mou to have been extorted from the tenants as a purchase price. Mongols told me that not more than 0.5—0.6 was paid per mou, but that the money remained in the Dzian Dziun's pocket. At Chentung (Tja ho ti area) in the Djungar wang's possessions a ting kuan was installed last year.

The »Hothau« area NW of Bautu (evidently also W and SW) extends beyond the mountains (probably the nearest?) to Santo ho in the W (?). It is said to be about 900 li long and 50 wide. It is said to belong to the possessions of the 3rd »kungje«, Tung-si and Tsung kung, but is now governed by the Yu yuan (Bautu) ting. The land is supposed to be well provided with water and very fertile. Formerly an annual rent of 1 tael per 100 mou was paid. Now 3.7 taels have been taken from the tenants as a purchase price and they continue to pay 0.73 taels per 100 mou annually for making use of the land.

The examples I have quoted should be taken as illustrating, though by no means exhausting, the settlement problem as a whole. In general it seems to affect both banks of the Hwang ho in a greater or lesser degree from Santo ho in the W to the Great Chinese Wall in the E, besides an area of Ordos along the Great Wall to the SW, if it can really be considered that settlement is being carried on as far as Yulin fu. In addition it embraces a fairly large area on the other side of the mountains N of Kweihwa ting. Here an area is said to have been thrown open to applicants among the Manchurians of Kweihwa ting. Of about 20 families who wished to avail themselves of the opportunity about half are reported to have perished in consequence of snowstorms. The rest gave up the attempt. — It is stated that the »Könn wu tu« administers altogether 500,000 plots of land of 100 mou each, i.e., 50 million mou which have been taken from the Mongols without the slightest recompense. — It would require considerably closer study to form an opinion of the intensity of the settlement, the numbers of Chinese that have immigrated and similar questions. A couple of Mongols from Ordos assured me that 20—30,000 Chinese had immigrated to that district alone during the last few years. It would be difficult, however, to accept this Mongolian estimate as a basis for statistics. Here in Kweihwa ting, on the other hand, I was told that the number of Chinese immigrants was comparatively small. Quite a number of settlers have, indeed, immigrated here in the course of time from Chihli,