

*Jade* is obtained near the bed of the Yúrúng Kásh. There are two principal mines, one at a distance of 15 miles and the other at 25 miles from Ilchi. It is also procured from the bed of the river.

The tax on the working is one-fifth part paid into the treasury, and a tax of 1 in 40 from all traders who carry jade to other places; besides this all pieces that are of superior size and quality are bought up at a price fixed by the Dadkhwah of Khotan.

The old skilled carvers of jade have almost disappeared since the Chinese have been ejected. The mines and the working of the jade were closed until two years ago when Chinese traders began to reach Almáti. The Amír, however, allowed the market of Almáti to be flooded the first year and so much of the jade carried there from Khotan was inferior that it was not purchased, but returned to Khotan in this year.

The value of large pieces of this mineral may be judged by the following fact:—Quite lately some five men obtained a large block of a good description weighing some 40 jings; it was taken before the Dadkhwah, who purchased it as it was, in an uncut state, for 12 yamboos, the market price fixed upon it was however 60 yamboos; there was however no single merchant rich enough to purchase.

The existence of gold and jade is necessarily demoralising to the population; the number of workers in jade fluctuates, but the supply is in no wise exhausted.

Coal is said to be obtained in the Kuen Luen, but it has not been used since the Chinese were in authority; it was then brought from a considerable distance to Khotan.

*Silk.*—From the earliest time Khotan has been celebrated for its silk manufactures. *Sericul-ture* in Khotán is the same as already noted in Yangi Hissar, this is purely a domestic business: there is however a regular sale for cocoons in the market, the purchasers are regular traders who sell again to the reelers who purchase as they are in want of cocoons. There are poor people who dispose of the spun silk in the markets, which is chiefly bought by Andijáni merchants; there are however a great number of silk weavers (these color their own silks). Silk cloth made at Khotan is not exported, but spun raw silk goes in large quantities to Andiján. It is also found profitable to send the "waste" to the Almáti market, where it is purchased for Russian paper manufactories (it is a rumor that Russian notes are made from silk "waste").

Reeling does not go on during the winter season.

The white, black, and red and a fruitless mulberry are all known in Khotan, but the worms are fed only on the leaves from the fruitless tree and from that yielding a black fruit.

The produce of silk in its various stages, from the tending of the worm to the final operation, affords occupation to the bulk of the population in the Khotan province.

There are two kinds of silk, the white and the yellow, the latter being most esteemed: this is known as "Taiful," and is chiefly bought up for Andiján; the former is called "Kalawur," each of these are classed in two classes. As a rule the silk is reeled off on a single chirka, but lately an Andijáni has set up a wheel working 16 reels at one time.

*Carpets.*—Khotán carpets are celebrated for the excellence of their manufacture and for the variety of their patterns; they are made at three places in the Khotan province, more particularly Sumpula, Yúrúng Kásh (Char Shamba Bazaar), and at another village on the Keria road about three tash from the city (Se-Shamba Bazaar). Carpets are made of silk and of wool, gold thread is also sometimes worked into the silk carpets.

The wool used in the carpets is chiefly obtained from the hill districts through the Kirghiz; it is spun off and sold in the weekly bazaars. The dyeing is carried out by the carpet-makers.

The mordants used are—alum for dyes of yellow, brown, and red, and their various shades. Grape juice for blues, and for mixed colors.

If green, the wool is first dyed yellow then put into an indigo solution.

If purple, it is first dyed red and then put into an indigo solution.

The dyes are indigo, madder, tookmuck (a seed), 'bukum.'