



Fig. 23. The shirt 6. A: 2 (dotted lines = invisible edges).

exact parallels to such an arrangement certain Central Asiatic tribes of our day use women's head-dresses of very voluminous shape which may afford at least some points of general resemblance. But this conjecture is very uncertain.

Below the cape the buried lady wore a shirt with bodice of undyed silk taffeta with very long sleeves completely covering the hands, Fig. 23. The lower part of the sleeves is adorned with a thin red silk damask in plain weave and twill, with a pattern of rows of zig-zag lines attached to ribs between which are both diamonds and human figures of a highly geometrized shape, Pl. 16: 9, (this photograph was taken with translucent light). The pattern has a general likeness to Han dynasty tiles with simple geometric ornaments and with Han silks in general. Below this part the sleeves have an edging of plain green silk.

The ornamentation of the front part of the bodice consists of a red silk strip running round the neck and along the opening in front. This strip is followed by a silk ribbon in warp-rib weave, 4 cm. wide, with three similar parallel borders in different shades of buff, each having a lion in a field with reversed colours. The outer border of this ribbon shows distinctly, because the colours are here red and white, Pl. 16: 1. The shape of the lions is not very naturalistic and not so well executed as those on the lion border on a shoe among STEIN'S finds (Stein 1928, Pl. XLII, L. H. 04). The right part of the front apparently overlapped the left part, as the latter has a shorter "lion-ribbon" than the former.

In a loose ribbon at the right hip were tied a pair of iron scissors, or more correctly shears as it is made in one piece, Pl. 16: 2. The description of a pair of scissors found in the Astana cemetery nearly corresponds to ours (Stein 1928, p. 685, Ast. i. 8.05). A pair of T'ang silver shears in the Asiatic Collections in Berlin also shows the same construction with the limbs crossed over from side to side forming a loop (Kümmel, Pl. 95); another T'ang specimen is depicted in Katori Pl. 94: 5. This figure-of-eight shape is unknown on European shears; their handles or springs are always open. Our Lop-nor specimen does not correspond absolutely with the T'ang shears referred to and is not necessarily of the same age as these.