

to the Crown. And the number of villages, as I learned by noting down their names, is 79, the Chahrdeh villages included, besides some which lie as far as 20 farsakh from Tebbes. Each has its own kanat, and seldom have two one in common, for the quantity of water in the kanats is so small that it will not suffice for more than one village. Tebbes itself has no underground kanat, but the oasis is watered naturally by a stream fed by springs which lie in the hills north-north-east at Teng-i-Tebbes. This stream never fails in summer; it would rise until about the middle of April and then become smaller during the warm season in consequence of evaporation. In the highest part of the oasis, just above our tents in the garden, the brook empties itself into a walled basin, where the water stands and clears, and then in two small waterfalls passes on to the two canals.

The elegant front of the governor's palace faces a garden, and its *eivan* or open hall is closed with a curtain which is only partly drawn up.

At the sides kiosks and bay windows are built into the wall. The walls in the large hall are covered with mirrors in the genuine Persian style of decoration; there are, besides, many smaller apartments, and before the front is a large walled-in basin. The garden is crossed by straight walks, and here, too, a basin is sunk in the ground, and fine palms and oranges are reflected in its surface.

In Tebbes are cultivated dates, figs, grapes, apricots, and peaches, melons, red and white beet, onions and cabbages, spinach, cucumbers, aniseed, gourds, etc., as well as wheat, barley, and millet, and, lastly, tobacco in considerable quantity. The palms constitute the wealth of Tebbes, and the water-supply is insufficient for much else, and the cultivated land is so restricted that it cannot support the population of the oasis. The wheat-crop yields only enough for eight months' consumption, and for the other third of the year the people are dependent on the imports from Turshiz and Sebsevar. For the cultivation of rice the water is no use at all.

The winter is considered to last four months in Tebbes, December to March, and the summer five,