

the day's journey, and the nearer we approach the more distinct its palms appear. We come to the outermost fields, march in under the palm trees, and pass a little burch or stronghold with towers and surrounded by huts. Some palms are effectively reflected in a small pool, and before the tents are pitched I have recorded their forms on some plates. A few inhabitants only are visible, besides cattle, asses, camels, and fowls, but not a single dog; these are scarce in this part of Persia.

Pervadeh contains 39 inhabitants in eight houses; they grow dates, wheat, barley, millet, white beet, and cotton, as well as a little fruit. The two hundred camels now grazing in the environs are from Tebbes. The head of the irrigation canal lies at a distance of a farsakh in the hills of Kuh-i-peikuh; its water is salt. But the village has a large *ambar*, which holds rain-water all the year, not drying up before the winter rains come. Snow will still lie on the eastern heights for a month and a half, and will then totally disappear before the great heat commences.

Within and around Pervadeh there are some heaps of small pieces of black lava, with a very glassy surface and particularly fine cellular structure.

Wild sheep, wild asses, and gazelles occur, and in the evenings large packs of jackals approach the village. Snakes, scorpions, and tarantulas are very common.

It is counted 8 farsakh to Duhuk and 16 to Naibend; to Bahabad there is a road which takes seven days. In summer caravans come from Kerman, Bander Abbas, and Khabis with goods consigned to Meshed.

At Pervadeh we had to make our choice between the straight road to Naibend, which takes two days, and a circuitous road to the west, which would take a week. As I wanted to make an excursion into this unknown country I chose the latter.

At eve Kuh-i-margho is clearly lighted up by the setting sun, and the shadows begin to climb up from its foot and cover its flank. A reflection of the rosy evening light hovers over its summit after the glow which gilded its snowfields has faded away. The gleam forms a dazzling background to the white, and up above the blue colour of