

to be polite, and the reception he himself accorded to me at the inner gate was distinctly hearty.

Huang-Daloi seemed a man of about forty-five, well built and with a ruddy face which bore a look of good-nature and humour. He was dressed in elegant Chinese silks; the brocaded yellow petticoat and the fine embroidered centre-piece of his state jacket



HUANG-DALOI, AMBAN OF KERIYA.

particularly attracted my attention. I found the little table on the raised dais, between the two seats which host and guest must always occupy, decked with sweets which looked clean and wholesome, and the customary cups of tea replaced by little wineglasses of European make. A kind of Madeira had to serve in place of the orthodox Cathay beverage; whether from a wish