

of Shan-hsi and Ho-nan, with a sprinkling of men from Kan-su, Ssü-ch'uan, and Tun-huang itself.

Most of the men must have served on foot; but horsemen, too, are referred to as well as mounted messengers. Numerous receipts and issue-warrants show that each soldier was entitled to about six-tenths of a bushel of corn *per diem*. In addition, he received pay calculated according to length of service. An elaborate system of reckoning was used to establish the total duration of the period for which pay could be claimed, with reductions for 'short months' of the luni-solar calendar, but also making allowance for the rule that two days of service on the border were to be counted as three, a significant indication of the hardships of service on such ground. In the case of a petty officer the daily rate of pay is stated in silver. A commissariat record at a certain station mentions provision for the feeding of watch-dogs, and proves that dogs were officially recognized as forming part of the regular establishment.

Numerous inventories show that the arms supplied to common soldiers by the Administration consisted of sword, cross-bow, and shield. In regard to the cross-bow care is usually taken to indicate its effective strength by stating the weight required to bend it. Thus cross-bows from three to six 'shih' are distinguished, a 'shih' being equivalent to 120 Chinese pounds. The greatly varying weight of the arrow-heads actually found by us bears out these distinctions as to the size and power of the cross-bows from which they were intended to be shot. When the strength had by age fallen below the nominal standard the fact was duly recorded. The regulation issue of arrows per man was 150, two kinds being mentioned, both with bronze heads. Quivers were provided for keeping them. In the case of shields the inventories repeatedly mention the factory in Ho-nan which supplied them and the date of their manufacture. Defects in the arms appear invariably to be stated in the inventory or record of issue.

Besides arms, clothing was furnished to the men free of charge. The inventories repeatedly mention tunics and dresses in black linen, for which the price paid by the