

L. RICHARD'S

(夏之時)

COMPREHENSIVE GEOGRAPHY

OF THE

CHINESE EMPIRE

AND

DEPENDENCIES

中國坤輿詳誌

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左江, formed by the confluence of two rivers, which come from Tongking 東京, and unite at Lungchow T'ing 龍州廳, in the Prefecture of T'aip'ing Fu 太平府. Both are navigable down into Tongking, large junks ascending as far as Lungchow T'ing 龍州廳.

Another but less important tributary, the *Yung-kiang* 容江, which joins the Si-kiang 西江 above Wuchow Fu 梧州府, establishes easy communication with Pakhoi 北海 (Peh-hai). Goods coming by the Lien-kiang 廉江, as far as Fomien (福偉墟 Fohweik'ü, to the S.W. of Yuhlin Chow 鬱林州), are transported thence upon the backs of carriers to the Yung-kiang 容江, which is navigable from Pehliu hsien 北流縣 and beyond.

Fauna and Flora. — On account of the devastation prevailing in Kwangsi, a great number of wild animals are found there: the tiger, rhinoceros, panther, tapir, wolf, bear and fox. Deer are also encountered, as well as stags, monkeys, scaly ant-eaters, and a large variety of serpents (the boa-constrictor, rattlesnake, green serpent, adder and asp). Besides the birds common to the rest of China, there are some that bear a close resemblance to those of Hindustan.

The flora is luxuriant and largely tropical. Suffice it to mention the sugar-cane, cinnamon and aniseed-trees, this latter growing profusely in certain parts. Ground-nuts are also found, as well as the papaw-tree, the shaddock, the palm-tree, the pineapple and orange, the lichee or persimmon, the mango-tree, arbutus, pomegranite, guava and betel-nut... The maple, ebony, teak-wood and mahogany-trees furnish excellent timber.

Agricultural Wealth. — Besides fruit-trees and timber, Kwangsi produces the sugar-cane, rice, cotton, and almost everywhere maize. The poppy and the mulberry are scarce. Potatoes are grown nowadays especially in the N. W. The fruit-trees of the N. : peach, plum, pear and walnut, are also easily grown. There are scarcely any forests, except in the N., but a great number of trees are found in the W. There also, buffaloes and ponies are extensively reared.

Mineral Wealth. — The mineral wealth of Kwangsi is little worked, though it is considerable, and consists chiefly of gold, silver, coal and antimony.

Population. — The population of Kwangsi, as we have seen, is very scanty, and is centred especially in the neighbourhood of the principal towns, where it finds greater protection against brigands and evil-doers. It is composed of 3 principal races: the *aborigines* or *Ikias* 夷家 (barbarians), the *Cantonese*, and the *Hakkas* 客家 or *K'ohkias* (alien or guest families, squatters).