



KULDJA, CHINESE TURKESTAN.

This town, where Mr. Frank N. Meyer, Agricultural Explorer, arrived March 23, 1911, is the principal town of the Ili Province, the scene of the recent Russian-Chinese controversy. It lies at almost exactly 44° N. latitude, and has a strictly continental climate, having long cold winters in which the mercury goes down to 20° below zero F., and short, hot summers.

Mr. Meyer writes, "A dirty unkempt town this Kuldscha is, and not populated by the best sort of folks. A real border town, nominally Chinese, but really Russian, inhabited by Sarts, Tartars, Chinese, Russians, Kirghiz, Kalmuks, Dsungans, Manchus and some mixtures between all these races. They told me some ten or eleven different languages were daily spoken here."