

are the first of the marginal lakes that deprive the Jarkent-darja-Tarim of its water. And with these, the first group of true marginal lakes, we may include the marsh of Lalmoj.

8th October. A couple of big bends; broad and sluggish current; insignificant alluvia; erosion terraces $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. high; steppe, except for poplar woods east of the Saj-tagh.

9th October. Very sinuous; depth reaching to 8 m. At Kala-dung vigorous forest, otherwise steppe. At Milka sand-dunes, bound together with vegetation.

10th October. Extraordinarily winding; very luxuriant forest. At Ak-satma shepherds permanently established, who grow wheat, which on the whole is rare alongside the main river.

11th October. Extraordinarily winding; very narrow and deep; the breadth in some places not more than 15 m. Underwoods; here and there thick clumps of poplars. Here a large marginal lake, the Jantak-köl, situated not far south of the Jarkent-darja, in the forest-belt between the river and the high sand, though it is invisible from the river. It is probably a marsh rather than a lake, and is more capricious in outline than appears from Pl. 4 of the atlas. It may be assumed, that the belt of forest as a consequence of including this lake is here rather broader.

12th October. Very sinuous; alluvia only at the extreme tips of the peninsulas. In general the river grows narrower and deeper as it proceeds. Narrow strips of forest on the banks. At Dugha-dschaji the containing bank, although 2.08 m. high, is under water at the high-flood season; these local and fortuitous overflows rob the river of a portion of its water. Indeed we may fairly assume, that in years of exceptionally high water these local inundations serve as a sort of safety-valve to the river, keeping down its volume to the normal level.

13th October. Exceptionally winding; forest and steppe alternate. At Toghrikum on the left bank big overgrown dunes.

14th October. Not so winding as usual in this part of its course; broad, shallow, and containing alluvia. Except that at Ghascha there is old and vigorous forest, steppe predominates. At Jigdelik overgrown dunes on the right bank. The high, barren sand 10 km. distant. Throughout the whole of this region sheep-breeding is pretty actively carried on, although it is only by chance that the shepherds or their flocks were seen.

15th October. For the first half of this stage the river is exceptionally winding, narrow, deep, and sluggish; the latter half consists of a single wide sweeping curve, and in it the stream is broad, shallow, and swift. Plentiful forest, and at Islik old poplars.

16th October. Rather sinuous course. Boldschemals begin to be numerous. Sandy banks terraced to the height of 3 m.; lofty sand-dunes quite common. Only 2 km. to the great sandy desert. Thick and luxuriant forest.

17th October. At first straight, afterwards rather winding. Some large bold-schemals. At Kujlusch there enters a small branch of the Kaschgar-darja under the name of the Kara-jilgha-darja. Young forest, underwoods, otherwise steppe. Here a tract with overgrown dunes known as Ägis-kum. A couple of old river-beds long since abandoned.