

In the second volume of this work I have already quoted the names of the most important springs on the road to Tung-chuan. Another informant, who had travelled several times by that route, gave me the following additional information regarding it, and I accordingly add it as at once a check upon the statements in vol. II and as a supplement to them. The first spring is Dschan-bulak. Between it and Kosch-bulak the route crosses three pretty high passes in the great valley between the lower Astin-tagh and the Tschokuluk-tagh and the transverse glen of Satschkan-saj, which leads north to the Kara-koschun. Close to its entrance, or a day's journey from the road, water and kamisch are to be had. The glen of Kosch-bulak yields fresh water and grazing, and unites with the Satschkan-saj. The Japkaklik-saj also penetrates to the north, and has in its lower part water and some grazing; it is joined by the Mus-saj from the east. One day's journey to the east of Kosch-bulak is Dscho-bulak, with water and grazing; it too slopes down towards the north, and is joined by the Guletschen glen to the east, which also possesses springs. From Dscho-bulak another day's journey will bring one to Tasch-köl, where the water collects in a rocky basin, though only after rain; there too the grazing is good. The road from the last-named to Kum-bulak, where there are both water and grazing, crosses over the Lower Astin-tagh. Then follows the glen of Chodscha-schukur, with water and grazing, it too sloping towards the north. Beyond it lie the Kara-davan, Jangisuni-saji, Arkarlik, and an unnamed spring without grazing, as well as a glen with salt water and grazing. Two days beyond Chodscha-schukur lies Toghrak-bulak, with water, grazing, and poplars.



Fig. 16.

The following places, which occur on the road to Anambar, lie between the two chains of the Astin-tagh; I have myself visited them, and shall describe them in a subsequent chapter. Travelling from Anambar (Chan-ambal) you come successively to Tsching-to; Hollustu; Tömörtu, on the lowland below the mountains and consisting of a village grouped around some Chinese houses, with poplars and cultivated fields; Nan-cho, this too a Chinese village with cultivated land; Gen-deng, or a Chinese caravanserai, without grazing, situated on the left bank of the Tan-ho, a tributary of the Bulundsir-gol; thence it is a day's journey to Tung-chuan or Sa-tscheo.

July 6th. Leaving Basch-kurghan we crossed the big valley between the two parallel chains of the Astin-tagh, and struck south-south-west up beside the middle eroded watercourse. The glen rose gently and regularly. The watercourse was dry, but from the water-mark about one foot above its bottom, it was evident that it does sometimes carry a fair quantity of water. Here there is solid rock nowhere; it is all gravel-and-shingle, gravel, and coarse sand, the products of disintegration which have collected at the northern foot of the Tschokuluk-tagh, where it forms a flat detritus slope, deposited in layers of varying thickness. It is through this