

from the eighteenth century to my own journey 1906 to 1908. The third volume is devoted to the problem of the Transhimalaya. The fourth one, which is under preparation, is applying to the Karakorum mountains, chiefly regarding the parts comprised in my routes. This volume will be published during the course of next year, and be accompanied by an index of names and a table of matters referring to all four volumes.

I hope the public will not be too critical in respect of the treatment of the language. Contrary to what was formerly the case when I had my Swedish manuscript translated, I have now written out the text direct in English, a procedure which, it is true, has been facilitated owing to the reason that most of the sources of its historical chapters are of English origin. Yet the treatment of the language cannot under such circumstances be distinguished by any lofty flight or beauty. On the contrary, it is very plain and bearing straightway on facts. In order to get the text cleansed from dim or erroneous expressions, I have had the manuscript gone over and corrected by two Englishmen living in Stockholm. I am also indebted to these gentlemen for their, I hope, careful revising of the proofs.

The historical and geographical text of the three first volumes is illustrated by 108 maps, selected from old and new atlases, explorative works and treatises on Tibet. Their number might have been increased without considerable difficulty, but to no great advantage. The maps appended are serving the end I have had in view in this respect. They make it possible for the reader to follow the development of our knowledge of Tibet and, in particular, of the southern part of that country. The fourth volume is accompanied by an additional number of historical maps, these being mostly of later date, which is quite natural considering that Karakorum was as unknown to the cartographers of antiquity as Transhimalaya.

The illustrative material of the geographical volumes consists, moreover, of photographs, reproduced in phototypes or autotypes, a few photographic panoramas, and also of sketches and watercolours representing Tibetan landscapes.

The map of my latest journey in Tibet consists of 25 sheets in the scale of 1 : 300,000. My faithful and conscientious assistant, Lieutenant C. J. Otto Kjellström, had before his death, which occurred on December 28th 1913, completed eight of these.<sup>1</sup> He had further drawn up my route on the following sheets and, after my

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<sup>1</sup> On Pl. 7 and Pl. 8, the spelling of names is in some cases not quite the same as in the text: for instance Lug-la, Tugdan, Rokso, Ajang, instead of Luk-la, Tugdän, Roksdö, Ayang. I always used to write down the names phonetically. The spelling in the text is more correct than on Pl. 7 and Pl. 8.