

CHAPTER IX.

THE NORTHERN TRIBUTARIES TO THE TSANGPO.

All the northern tributaries of the Tsangpo, known to the Europeans since Nain Sing's journey, were already marked on the Ta-ch'ing map with their correct names and to their very sources. So far as I have had an opportunity to control the Chinese statements I have found their drawing of these rivers very incorrect. Some of these rivers may be recognised on earlier editions of Stieler's *Hand-Atlas*, for instance for 1826 and 1834 and on H. BERGHAUS' map, where two of them rise north of the Indo-Tibetan watershed. As a rule they are much better on the Ta-ch'ing map than on d'Anville's.

First of the more considerable tributaries is the Naouk tchou represented as coming from the lake Dzang ri. This river has not been changed on d'Anville's map, where it is called Naouc Tsanpou R, and the lake Sanc-li, which may be supposed to be identical with the Senit-tso, which, as I was told, should be situated somewhere here. If the Chinese map were correct, the Naouk tchou should be longer than the Kubi-tsangpo and the Chema-yundung. I cannot utter any opinion regarding the probability of this river-course, as my route goes north of it. But beyond doubt it exists and is identical with Nain Sing's Chu Nago. Ryder has certainly drawn it too short as all the other northern tributaries, and the Chinese map has probably made it too long. In this part of the Transhimalaya I have, already, on my preliminary map, written some notes of interrogation, marking out that I do not know the geography of this particular region. I therefore am not able to draw any conclusions from the orographical structure either.

The text of the *Ta-ch'ing-i-t'ung-chih* as related by DUTREUIL DE RHINS, says of this river:

Le Naouk tchou ou Lhabouk dzang bo tchou a sa source au nord-est (des Djochot) dans le lac Dzang ri, coule d'abord 250 li (55 milles) à l'ouest et reçoit sur la droite deux rivières qui viennent des monts Dziang ri ou Sang ri et Mouk rong. Au sud, il reçoit trois autres rivières qui découlent des monts Tchang la tchouk, Dzoreng ri et Yang bou ri. Le Naouk tourne au sud, fait 80 li (17 milles), reçoit à droite les eaux des montagnes Yala et Ta