

CHAPTER XX.

MAPS OF THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

On a map called *Tabula Superioris Indiæ et Tartariæ Majoris* from Ptolemæus Argentorati 1522, we find at least the name of Tebet north of India, as a survival from Fra Mauro's map. Baron A. E. Nordenskiöld also says that this map is almost exclusively founded on Marco Polo traditions.¹ But Tibet soon disappears again.

Such is also the case with the map of the world by NICOLAS DESLIENS, of 1541, Pl. XIV.² It seems to be made especially for the use of sailors, for along the coasts and islands there are numerous names, but in the interior of the continent only a very few. The Indus and Ganges are there, as usual, but they are less correct than on Ptolemy's map, being meridional and parallel with each other. Another shortcoming of the map is that the uninterrupted range all through Asia has been dissolved into many different and quite isolated mountain groups, each giving rise to one of the feeders of the two great rivers. Only the source of the main branch of the Ganges comes from a group called Montes Imani. Further north are, from east to west, Can de Tartarie, Cathay, Sogdiana and Bactriana.

On Pl. XV we see an example of the bastard maps, where the interior of Asia is of pure Ptolemæan type, whereas the outlines of the coasts are founded on later observations. It is an anonymous map of the world, which, upon insufficient evidence, has been ascribed to GIACOMO GASTALDI. C. H. COOTE has proved this to be wrong, and found that it must be based on contemporary Spanish and Venetian maps, for instance, those used by DIEGO HOMEM in 1558, and DIEGO GUTIERREZ in 1562, which are derivations from DIEGO RIBERO of 1529, and others. The map is in four sheets of the two hemispheres, and dated Venice, Tramizini, 1554.³ It is of

¹ Facsimile-Atlas, Stockholm 1889, p. 72.

² Kartographische Denkmäler zur Entdeckungsgeschichte von Amerika, Asien, Australien und Afrika, aus dem Besitz der Königlichen öffentlichen Bibliothek zu Dresden . . . herausgegeben von Viktor Hantzsch und Ludwig Schmidt, Leipzig 1903.

³ Remarkable Maps of the XVth, XVIth & XVIIth centuries reproduced in their original size, I, the Bodleian Collection at Leyden, Edited by C. H. Coote, Amsterdam 1894.