

stated; but falls into the Attock, or more properly speaking, is the main stream of that river.»¹

In Gartok, Moorcroft found some black tents round the house of the »Déba or Garpan». His description of Gartok as well as that of Daba shows that these places have not changed in the least during 100 years. The *Garpun* did not take the travellers for Europeans and does not seem to have caused them any difficulties. He only told them not to take any other road than the usual one to the Manasarovar, and not to stay at the place more than one or two days. Thence they should proceed to Gangrí, Hienlung, Daba and the Niti pass. Moorcroft tried to get permission to return by another pass than the Niti, but in vain. The *Garpun's* head would be forfeited if he let them take another road than the one by which they had come, — exactly as at the present day!

At Gartok they met merchants both from Ladak and Kashmir. Moorcroft mentions the growing trade of Russia with Yarkand and says her agents even come to Kashmir. The Russians themselves were said not yet to have proceeded so far as to Ladak, but 500 or 600 Russians on horseback were reported to have visited the fair of Gartok. If that be true, Moorcroft thinks that the Russians must reach Gartok by another route than that of Yarkand. From Ladak it was said to be 30 days to Yarkand where much better horses are found than in Hundes. Ladak was said to be 10 or 12 days' journey from Gartok.²

After six days' stay in Gartok he proceeds towards the S.E., crosses a pass and then a branch of what he calls the Satúdrá river. At Misar he bought a good deal of wool to hide and mask his real intentions, but he also regards that day as the epoch at which may be fixed the origin of a traffic »which is likely to be extremely beneficial to the Honourable Company». Misar was found to be situated upon a rising ground on the left bank of a rapid stream, forming one of the branches of the Satúdrá or Satlej. By branches he here obviously means tributaries, as the brook of Misar, which only after rain may be considerably swollen, cannot possibly be regarded as one of the sources of the river.

The next place on his route is Tirtápúri, the residence of a Lama and several *Gelums*. Steep, craggy, limestone rocks in a state of decomposition overhang it. At Tirtapuri he was told that immediately at the foot of the rock, on which the monastery is built there runs a very rapid stream which proceeds from a lake at the foot of the Himálaya, called Ráwanhrád; it constituted the principal branch of the Satúdrá.³ On his map, Pl. III, he has drawn the hydrography in quite a different way. As there was no water in the channel between the two lakes in 1812, it is of course

¹ If such information as the first mentioned could be given on the very banks of the Indus, we may forgive the Lamas if they believed in the information that the same river belonged to the Ganges.

² As many other travellers and geographers in those days, Moorcroft calls the Tibetans, Tatars.

³ Loc. cit. p. 462.