

Brahmaputra, etc. Therefore he criticises Mr. Colebrooke who doubted that any rivers pierced the chain. For there is no doubt that the rivers he enumerates come from Tibet, and he asks: if, indeed, the Karnali arises from the lake Manasarovar, which is undoubtedly on the north side of the Himalaya, how could then Colebrooke be right? He also thinks Colebrooke is wrong in supposing the central Himalaya as bending to the north. It is more probable that it passes due west after being pierced by the Indus, and reaches the Hindoo Koosh of Elphinstone; while it is, in Hamilton's opinion, the western extremity of the northern ridge that turns to the north and separates Samarkand and Bokhara from Kashgar. Hamilton does not believe that the perforating rivers rise from any remarkable ridge of mountains, but that they spring from detached eminences on the elevated country of Tibet. The fact that the western branches of the Ganges came from the southern side of the Himalayas did not prove at all that the eastern tributaries could not rise from the northern side. Already Tieffenthaler had sketched the Gogra as coming from the Rakas-tal, and the same view was accepted by Hamilton as probable,¹ though he regarded the Manasarovar, and not the Rakas-tal as the source of this river.

¹ Compare also Ritter, II, p. 501.