

Dr TH. THOMSON who travelled in the western parts of Himalaya 1847—48 says of the uppermost Indus that it had been less known than any other part in Tibet. But Captain Strachey very much reduced the unknown portion. It rises in the mountains north of the lakes of Mansarawer and Rawan Rhad, and runs in general towards the N. W. »Moorcroft has described its appearance at Garu or Gartop, where it is a very insignificant stream; but the intervening country is so little known, except by native report, that we can scarcely be said to have an exact knowledge of the upper part of its course.» He is not quite sure of the eastern branch laid down on some maps. From the arid and snowless nature of the country through which it must flow Thomson finds it probable that it is a very small stream, but its length may be considerable.¹

it has a very considerable outlet. Near it is the magnificent Gangdisri, the highest peak of the Kailassa.»

He gives the height of the sacred lake at 14,000 feet, places Rakas-tal to the N. W. of it and makes it much larger and tells the world that the last-mentioned lake has a very considerable outlet, statements which some years before had been proved by H. Strachey to be wrong. Again he returns to the »sources» of the Indus, though he seems to mean the Satlej:

»The source of the Indus are farther west of the Langka lake, which in the Chinese map is joined to the Mapan by an intervening stream. There are no less than five streams which have the claim of giving rise to this celebrated river; one proceeds from the lake itself, and two others stand in connection with its tank-like waters. The northern branch is called Satadra (Satahadra). The Kentaisse mountains pour down rapids both into the lakes and into the infant stream.»

It had been shown by Moorcroft and Henry Strachey that the Satadra is the same river as the one which, at least periodically, proceeds from the lake itself. Lower down on the same page Gutzlaff says that »Keenlung, Dampo, Deba and Toling» are situated on the Satadra. And from Shipki he says the Satadra »receives the name of Satlej.»

¹ Western Himalaya and Tibet; a Narrative of a Journey through the Mountains of Northern India, during the years 1847—8. London 1852, p. 158. But already in the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society for 1830, p. 245, we read of »the Chanthan Gurdokh, or Leh river, the long eastern branch of the Indus».