

long as this water is fresh, whether it will remain so for centuries or thousands of years, and so long as there do not exist any positive proofs that the lakes have been definitely cut off and have entered the same stage of their history as the Pang-gong-tso and Tso-morari, they belong to the Satlej system.

Finally I will only quote Rawling's opinion as to the whereabouts of the source of the Indus. »The Pundit was only able to follow up the latter (the main branch) for a few miles, so the actual whereabouts of the source of the Indus is still unknown, though the natives assert that it rises from the northern slopes of Kailas Parbat.»¹ So great was still the uncertainty about the situation of the source of the Indus only three years before my visit to the place.

¹ The Great Plateau, p. 269.