

A record of barrenness and ignorance is the diary of THOMAS MANNING of his journey to Lhasa in 1811—12. Therefore the feat, in itself remarkable, loses all its importance and interest. He hardly mentions the tributaries and has never heard the name of the Tsangpo. He talks of a »lake or see» which seems to be Bam-tso. »We proceeded on to where the lake becomes a river, in a narrow pass between the brown, dry mountains; here it was open in the middle, and running briskly.» Then he observes a stream flowing in the middle of a valley, probably the Kiang Lope Chu. He observed »the river, which flowed through the valley towards Giansu». He confounds the Tsangpo and the Ki-chu just as Beligatti did. At least he says, when he comes down to the valley of the Tsangpo: »We were now in the valley in which the town of Lhasa stands, distant from it about fifty or sixty miles . . . The valley was wide, a lively stream flowed through it, houses and villages were scattered about, . . . we descended down to the sandy shore, and found a large and good ferry-boat ready to waft us over the stream, whose width here was considerable.»<sup>1</sup> The »lively stream» was the great Tsangpo or Brahmaputra. There is no other hydrography in his narrative, which is very meagre when compared with the important knowledge so often brought to us by oriental writers.

The fact that HUC has nothing to say of the Tsangpo is easy to understand, as he never touched the river. It is more curious that he has no details about the Ki-chu.

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<sup>1</sup> Narratives of the Mission of George Bogle to Tibet . . . etc. By Clements R. Markham, p. 213 et seq.