

CHAPTER XLVII.

FROM PASA-GUK TO TRADUM AND THENCE TO THE CONFLUENCE OF TSA-CHU-TSANGPO WITH THE TSANGPO.

From Pasa-guk our road goes westwards along the southern branch of the Chaktak-tsangpo. The ground is either sandy or covered with gravel and small blocks of crystalline schist. A projecting rock, Agar-jagar, consists of marble, and has a ruin on its top. A little higher up, where the river comes out of a narrow passage, there are the ruins of a whole village, Shiri-tangdö, two towers of stone walls, dilapidated houses, etc., said to have belonged to Saka-dsong at a time when, this place was at war with a mighty Lama dwelling in the mountains here about There are many *manis* round the place.

North of this old village is a pass, Tsangdong-la, with a road to a higher part of the Chaktak-tsangpo. The rocky promontory above the village is called Sami-yang. Chago is a steep, short, and dry tributary from the right, and Chago-pumpa-ri are the mountains round it.

The Chaktak-tsangpo runs in one branch between terraces, 5 or 6m. high, and in two or three stories; at the right side an older terrace is some 10m. above the river. The fall of the valley is very slow, and at rare intervals small rapids are found in sharp bends. A little further west we leave the transverse valley through which the Chaktak-tsangpo comes out from the N.E.; in the background are seen some not very high snowy mountains and peaks, here called Lap-känchung, a name obviously combined of Lapchung and Kanchung, with which as well as with the upper course of the river we shall make nearer acquaintance later on. This Lap-känchung corresponds to the Lapchung-gangri. The information I got of the upper reaches of the river proved to be useless; even the Lapchung-tso was unknown. The transverse valley of the Chaktak-tsangpo which we now leave to our right, is pierced through the range that lies S.W. of and parallel with the Lunpo-gangri.

Then our road follows the course of the right tributary Rok, which joins the Chaktak-tsangpo just at the southern foot of Mount Demok; south of the junction the mountains are called Pangchen; where the two valleys meet a triangular plain