At the junction of the Tsa-chu-tsangpo and Tsangpo the height is 4,565m. (14,973 feet). Here the joint river sweeps along the foot of the hills which border its valley to the south and consist of graywacke and sandstone. An important road to Nepal crosses the river at this place; Tibetan salt is carried down to Nepal, and a ferry keeps up the communication between the two banks. The ferry place is just below the confluence, where the river is broad and shallow and has a fairly strong current. The Tsangpo is very muddy, the Tsa-chu-tsangpo nearly clear, as had been the case with other great northern tributaries I had seen.

On June 20th the Tsa-chu-tsangpo had the following dimensions: breadth = 32.55m.; maximum depth = 0.96m.; average depth = 0.74m.; average velocity = 0.39m. a second, and volume = 9.44cub.m. a second.

The same day the Tsangpo's dimensions were: breadth = 101m.; maximum depth = 1.75m.; average depth = 1.01m.; average velocity = 0.706m. a second, and volume = 72cub.m. a second.

The Tsangpo thus carried below the confluence 81.5cub.m. a second. Above the Chaktak junction, on May 29th, the Tsangpo carried 71.7cub.m. or 10cub.m. less than at Tradum, on June 20th, in spite of its receiving some tributaries on the way down, amongst others the Men-chu. The difference in volume depends on the difference in time, and 22 days is much during a season when the melting action in the higher regions increases considerably from day to day.