

Let us now pay a visit to the western parts of Himalaya, under the guidance of Dr THOMAS THOMSON,¹ who was a member of the mission, the chief of which was Major A. CUNNINGHAM; Captain HENRY STRACHEY was another member. They left Simla Aug. 2nd 1847,² and went up to Kotgarh, Rampur and Chini. Near Kanam they left the Satlej on their right, went up the Piti valley and visited Dankar, where Moorcroft and Trebeck had been before them. They crossed the Parang Pass (18 500) and Parang river south of the Chumoreri lake, where Trebeck had travelled to and from Ladak. Here Strachey left the party in order to cross the great Trans-Satlej chain to the Indus. »The great line of watershed between the Indus and Sutlej lay still before us. This chain, which is the prolongation of Kailas, must be called the Trans-Sutlej Himalaya, unless the name Himalaya be restricted to the chain south of the Sutlej, in which case the mountains of Lahul, Kishtawar, and Kashmir, would lose their claim to that appellation.» The Lanak pass in this range has 18 100 feet. Approaching Hanle Thomson speaks of the »Table Land north of the Himalaya, if any part of Tibet (which I have seen) may be so called.» Concerning the country near Hanley he does not doubt that it was at one time a lake, which has been gradually silted up.

Having touched the Indus valley they again turned S.W. and crossed the range at its left side in Pulokanka La, 16 500 feet. In the Tunglung pass, 17,500 feet, they again arrived at the Indus and reached Leh. Then follows the description of Thomson's clever dash to the Kara-korum-Pass to which we shall have to return in Vol. IV of this work.

Following Humboldt's authority Thomson divides Tibet into two great portions:³ »One of these, the waters of which collect to join the Sanpu, which in India becomes the Brahmaputra, is still scarcely known; the other, drained principally by the Indus and its tributaries, has been repeatedly visited by European travellers. The line of separation between these two portions lies a little to the east of the great lakes (Manasarawar and Rawan Rhad), from the neighbourhood of which the country must gradually slope in both directions towards the sea.»

Stating the fact that the country round the Tsangpo was, in 1852, scarcely known, he involuntarily shows that much was left to be desired even regarding ranges further west and nearer to India, for he says: »the chain which, commencing in Kailas, separates the waters of the Sutlej from those of the Indus, may not improperly be designated the Trans-Sutlej Himalaja.» This range has, of course, nothing whatever to do with the Kailas. The following reflection is more difficult to

¹ Western Himalaya and Tibet; a Narrative of a Journey through the Mountains of Northern India, during the years 1847—8. London 1852.

² The heights are given from the Gerards, from his own boiling-point observations and from those of his fellow-travellers. The map is founded on Arrowsmith's large map, Panggong from H. Strachey, the rest from his own rough survey.

³ Op. cit. p. 457.