

to Nam-tso was somewhat higher than the first 30 days, it would seem to indicate the improbability of a general fall of the ground to the east, a short distance further north.

The very high snowy peak Shyalchí Káng Jáng which he saw to the S.E. is obviously identical with Shakangsham seen by Littledale from the north and by myself from all quarters of the compass.

At Shyal-chu the Pundit crossed the road to Manasarovar. It is not correct to say that it passes through easy but quite uninhabited country throughout for there are several tent villages on this road and even a *gompa*, Selipuk.

At Tok-aurakpa he visited the gold mines where, and at several places all around, the gold is collected from small pits. The diggers pay a certain tax to the *Sarpun* or Gold Commissioner of Lhasa. Tok-aurakpa and Tok-jalung are under the same *Sarpun*, »who makes the round of all Tibetan gold-fields once a year to collect the taxes». When I passed only a few days west of Nain Sing's Tok-aurakpa, which, from his report, seems to be a rather important place, I made inquiries amongst the few shepherds I met, but nobody could tell anything of the place. The same was the case when I passed east of it. This may depend on the fear of the people to give strangers any information about the gold-mines. Nain Sing's experiences about the *Sarpun* agree perfectly with my own.

Nain Sing's representation of the mountain ranges south of Tong-tso and Tashi-bup-tso and his river courses is wrong in many respects, which is not surprising, as he saw the country only from a distance and from the deepest part of the whole region. He has a district, De Chekchu, south-west of Shakangsham, which may perhaps be identical with my Chokchu.

From Tashi-bup-tso he continues to the S.E.; all rivers he crossed go to the north-east, as he believes to the Chargut-tso. The country is easy as before. He is here in the district of Nákchang Pontod Chángmá, south of which is Nákchang Pontod Lhoma. Here he crossed the Bogtsang-tsangpo, which he calls the Bogchang stream and regards as an affluent to another river (Chuzán), which is not correct. In the latter half of September he found the river 20 paces wide and 1 foot deep. He makes the Bogtsang-tsangpo go to the Chargut-tso, but in reality the river has its own recipient, the Dagtse-tso. Some names given by the Pundit round the river I have found to be perfectly correct.

The following passage is of special interest as Nain Sing here mentions some of the ranges belonging to the Transhimalaya, although they are situated north of the principal or water-parting ranges. Trotter puts the observations Nain Sing here made from a distance of 60 miles and more, in the following words:¹ »In the 8th march from Thok Daurákpa the Pundit encountered a lofty range of mountains which was crossed by a high but easy pass called Kilong, 18 170 feet above sea-

¹ L. c. p. 105 and 128.