

that the Penbo-la, just north of Lhasa, is 5 575 m. high, so it may be even higher than the water-parting pass in the principal range. Huc probably crossed this range in Shangshung-la, which, as stage N:o 85, is to be found on the Chinese-Mongolian itinerary under the form of Santschschun.<sup>1</sup> Through this pass, Shangshung, A—K— also travelled, and it seems to be the one crossed by the Mongolian pilgrims' highway to Lhasa.

Huc's journey is one of the most remarkable ever undertaken through Tibet and his book the most delightful ever written about this country. Prshevalskiy uses every possible opportunity to throw some shadow over Father Huc. But Richthofen remarks that Huc's geographical observations are perfectly reliable and that their meagreness depends upon the terrible cold he had to endure during a winter journey in those inhospitable regions. With our present knowledge of the country it is easy to see that all the names Huc has given are correct. Burkhan-Buddha, Shuga, Bayankhara, Mur-ussu,<sup>1</sup> Tang-la and Penbo-la, are all correctly placed in his description. Over the whole book there is an atmosphere of perfect honesty and love of truth.

DUTREUIL DE RHINS has said of his famous countryman: »Un robuste chasseur, rompu aux plus dures fatigues, qui suivrait les traces du P. Huc, avec une sérieuse escorte et en s'entourant de tout le confort possible, trouverait sans doute quelque exagérations de style dans certaines descriptions de M. Huc; mais il nous semble que, voyageant plus simplement ou dans les mêmes conditions que ce missionnaire, la plupart des Européens seraient impressionnés de la même façon que lui . . . Les récits de M. Huc doivent inspirer une entière confiance . . .»<sup>2</sup>

With such defenders Prshevalskiy's criticism has done very little harm to Huc and his *Souvenirs*.

It is easy to see from Dufour's map in Huc's book, that Dufour and Huc have not worked together, for none of the high ranges mentioned by Huc have been entered on the map, except Koiran. Even Tang-la is missing. There is a Baïn khara oola, but in quite a wrong place. There is a Bassa doungra oola south of Mouroui-oussou, resembling the range of the same name on Berghaus' map and probably originally meant to be the Tang-la range. Huc's description of the ranges which is very clear and correct and even gives the impression of parallelism, does not at all agree with the fantastic arrangement on the map, which is dated 1840 and thus drawn several years before Huc's journey. As it was, however, published also in Huc's book, it ought to have been improved from his descriptions.

Still there are some interesting features on Dufour's map. The Mts Koiran are continued to the N.E. by a range, which is pierced by all the Indo-Chinese rivers going east and S.E. This range returned later on in Richthofen's »Sinisches System» and on Saunders' maps and others. To the west the Koiran range continues the

<sup>1</sup> Petermann's Mitteilungen, l. c. p. 49.

<sup>2</sup> L'Asie Centrale, p. 188.