

from the valley of the Sanpu or Brahmaputra. It is sometimes known as the Nyenchhen-tang-la mountains, and Mr. Saunders proposes that it should be called the Gang-dis-ri Range. Parallel to the Northern Range runs the Central Range of the Himálaya, the two enclosing the upper basins of the Indus, Sutlej, and Brahmaputra. — In noticing the Herbert theory, according to which the Southern Range is not a cordillera, because it is broken by the defiles through which the rivers force their way, which rise in the Central Range, I pointed out that this is not a question of fact, but of correct definition. If a cordillera is a range of mountains through which rivers force their way, as well as one which has an unbroken water-parting, then the Southern Range of the Himalaya is undoubtedly a cordillera or chain of mountains. — The Calcutta Reviewer fancies that he settles the question by saying that a row of unconnected links does not constitute a chain, and that the essence of a chain is the continuous connection of its links.»

In opposition to this view Markham maintains that a cordillera is a range, or ranges of hills, continuing one after another in a direct line, whether broken through by ravines or not. And he adds: »The notion that a chain of mountains must culminate in a continuous water-parting is a fallacy. A great mountain system does, but it usually consists of two or three distinct cordilleras or chains, and some of them are, as a rule, cut through by river courses, though each, also, forms a distinct water-parting of its own. We have seen that this is the case in the Himalayan system, in which the Central and Southern Ranges are both cut through by rivers, though the Northern Range is not.»

Between the valley of the Vilcamayu and the basin of Titicaca in the Andes he finds a counterpart of Maryum-la, dividing the basin of the Satlej from the valley of the Brahmaputra. He also finds a geographical homology between the elevated valleys of the Andes and those between the Northern and Central Ranges of the Himálaya, or Transhimalaya and Himalaya.

He gives the following definition of a water-parting: »In English geography a water-parting, called a divide by the Americans, is the ridge which separates the flow of water on either side of a range of hills. The water-shed is not the water-parting, or dividing ridge, but the slope down which the water flows from the ridge to the river in the valley below.»

Markham sums up his views in the following cardinal points: »The Southern Himalayan Range is clearly defined by its numerous snowy peaks, which are the loftiest in the world. Behind it is the Central Himalayan Range; and the system is completed by the Karakorum and Gang-dis-ri Mountains, which I have called the Northern Range.»

In this article of Markham's we find for the first time, if not a *résumé* of the history of its exploration, so at least an attempt to fix the orographical situation and importance of the mountain system north of the Tsangpo. He calls it the Northern range, as compared with the two Himalayan ranges. It could as well be called