

CHAPTER XII.

TO NGANGTSE-TSO.

The region about *Camp XCV*, was called *Kachen*. Four tents were said to exist in the immediate neighbourhood; one of these was in sight, and two were situated at *Yerke*, a place at the opening of the steep valley, coming down from *Lamlung-la*. The Tibetans of the place, gave the same name to this pass and to *Gurtse-la* as we had heard before. The names *Dumbok-tso* and *Pul-tso* were also checked, and it may be that the two appellations signify different parts of the depression. One old Tibetan called the whole lake *Dumbo-pu-tso*, which simply is an amalgamation of both names. They confirmed that the lake is salt, but frozen, and asserted that, even in summer, it gets larger than now, which is, however, doubtful. The high peak to the N. E. was called *Chaga* as before. The nomads of *Dumbok-tso* pass the winter around the lake, and wander, during the summer, to the *Chang*, *i. e.* the northern country in contradistinction from the nomads of *Bogtsang-tsangpo* who wander north in the winter. The cold as well as the S. W. wind, would continue for another six months. In the summer the wind is less regular. To *Ngangtse-tso*, they reckoned two days, and to *Kemar* three. *Dangra-yum-tso* was pointed out as being situated straight west, but when they asserted that the *Tsikut-tso*, Nain Sing's *Chikut-tso*, was situated to the N. 20° E. they were probably mistaken. The real geographical position of this lake, however, remains to be determined. The province of *Naktsang* was said to stretch another five days to the south, after which follows the province of *Labrang* or *Tashi-lunpo*. The principal place of *Naktsang* again was said to be *Shansa-dsong*, south of *Kyaring-tso*. Regarding the lakes, another informant told us that *Tsikut-tso* was nine days distant, if travelling with yaks. The lake east of *Ngangtse-tso*, they called *Marja-tso*, though *Marchar* was the name given later on. The *Daru-tso* of Nain Sing, nobody had heard of, nor anybody else among the nomads we had hitherto asked. When they said a lake *Staruk-tso* was situated somewhere to the north, I think they meant *Tarok-tso*, which is, in fact, situated to the west; but certainly the nomads of *Dumbok-tso* had never had any reason to visit that region, as their wanderings chiefly seem to take place