

more rounded. In the opening between two prismatic mountain ridges, the *Kailas* again gives a brilliant spectacle to the south (Pan. 318, Tab. 57).¹

A moment later we reach *Diri-pu-gompa* with a gigantic granite block in front of it, and the holy formula engraved on the surface of the latter (*cp.* drawing p. 152, Vol. II). Here, at *Camp CCXXXI*, the altitude is 5,091 m. The blocks laying about everywhere in the region consist of granite (quartz-biotite-diorite).

The next day's march on *September 4th*, took us 17.5 km. S. E., E. S. E., S. E. and finally S. S. W., around the northern and eastern parts of the *Kailas* massif. From *Diri-pu-gompa* we had only 1.3 km. S. E. to the pass *Dolma-la*, one of the highest we had to cross on the whole journey in *Tibet*, being 5,669 m. high or 578 m. above *Camp CCXXXI*. The rise is, therefore, if taken on a direct line, enormous, or as 1:2.25, which was the sharpest gradient I ever had. One had to ascend 1 m. for every 2¼ m. of road. As such a slope is too hard for riding animals, one has to take the ascent of the pass in zigzags. On the southern side of the pass we had 16.2 km. to *Camp CCXXXII*, *Tsumtul-pu-gompa* where the altitude is 4,863 m. being a descent of 806 m. and a fall of 1:20.1.

The lamas of *Diri-pu-gompa* gave me some information about the source of the *Indus* which I, a few days later, had an opportunity to check. When I asked in what direction the source was, they pointed to the N. 40° E. The valley of *Diri-pu*, which farther west joins the *Dunglung* and the *Chamo-lungchen*, they called *Ham-chuchen*. There was said to be a road up in the *Dunglung* valley leading in one day to *Dunglung-la*, and thence in two days to the *Singto-dokpas* or nomads of *Singtod* on both sides of the uppermost *Indus*. *Komcham-chu* is the name of the little valley by which the *Kailas* is visible to the south as on Pan. 318, Tab. 57. Pilgrims wandering around the *Kang-rinpoche* are allowed to get shelter for the nights in the monasteries around the mountain, and they do not need to pay anything.

Leaving the *Tseti* valley with the road to the source of the *Indus* to our left, and crossing its brook of about 1½ cub. m. per second, on a little bridge of stone and wood, we began, immediately from its left bank, to climb towards the heights of *Dolma-la*. Then we have to our right or south the upper part of the *Ham-chuchen* which, in spite of its being a tributary, has much more water than the main river. But it comes from the ice and snows of the *Kailas*. The *Kailas* group has no water-parting importance, as all the brooks coming from it belong to the *Satlej* System. The water-parting between the *Indus* and the *Satlej* is situated north of the *Kailas* on the *Tseti-lachen-la*, 5,466 m. high. The *Kailas*, therefore,

¹ On the fourth phot. opposite p. 210 of Vol. II the opening just mentioned is easily recognizable. The direction is here N. N. E. and not north.