

PIERRE BERGERON has not brought the knowledge of our mountains any farther. His description of the narrative of the »habile Moine Bacon» begins: Les Indes, sont bornées au septentrion par la mer de Scythie, et ces grandes montagnes, qu'on nomme Caucase & Taurus, & auxquelles on donne plusieurs autres noms, selon la diversité des lieux & la différence des peuples.

In his description: *Histoire Orientale de Haiton, Armenien*, it is said that the Tartars formerly lived beyond the great mountain of Belgian. Seven nations originated from the ancient Tartars. La premiere de ces nations est nommée Tartar; . . . la seconde se nomme Tangot; la troisieme Cunat; la quatrieme Jalair; la cinquieme Sonich; la sixieme Monghi; & la septieme Tebeth.¹

In his résumé of ANDRADE'S journey he expresses the opinion that Andrade's Tibet: sans doute est la Tebeth de Marc Pole & des autres Historiens de ce tems-là.²

Another collector of narratives of Travels, THOMAS ASTLEY, gives at a few places, short general descriptions of the countries dealt with. Of Tibet he says: »Although Tibet is a country of very large extent, yet it scarcely appears in our maps, before those published by De l'Isle. It was there represented as a narrow Kind of Desart, lying between India and China, without either Towns, Rivers, or Mountains, although no Part of Asia abounds more with the two latter.»³

In his introduction to the chapter: A Description of the Kingdom of Karazm, we find how little was known of these parts in 1747:

Between Great Tartary on the North, and Tibet, India, and Persia on the South, there runs a long Tract of Land, extending from the Great Kobi, or Desart on the North-West Part of China, Westward, as far as the Caspian Sea. This Country is situated in a sandy Desart, with which it is surrounded; or rather is itself a vast sandy Desart, interspersed with Mountains and fruitful Plains, well-inhabited and watered with Rivers.

Nature seems to have divided this Region into three large Parts, separated from one another by the Intrusion of the Desart, and known at present in these Western Parts, by the Names of the countries of Karazm, Great Bukhâria, and Little Bukhâria. The original Inhabitants, who are very different from the Tartars, were always great Traders; and Karawâns frequently pass through their Lands from India and Persia to China: But as they have been but little visited by Europeans, we had scarce any Account of them, but what is met with in the Translations and Extracts from the Oriental Writers, till Mr. Bentink obliged the Public with his Notes on Abu'lghâzi Khân's Genealogical History of the Tatars.⁴

Other sources mentioned are only Jenkinson, Goës and Tavernier.

In the chapter on Great Bukharia, he approaches our regions somewhat nearer: Badagshan is situated at the Foot of those high Mountains, which separate the Dominions of the Great Mogul from Grand Tartary . . . Those Mountains are called, in

¹ *Voyages faits principalement en Asie dans les XII, XIII, XIV, et XV siècles . . .* Tome II, A la Haye MDCCXXXV, p. 3 and 26.

² *Op. cit.*, Tome I, p. 102.

³ *A New General Collection of Voyages and Travels . . .* Vol. IV, London, printed for Thomas Astley, MDCCXLVII, p. 449.

⁴ *Op. cit.*, p. 476.