

reached St. Helena in 19 days, and Ireland in one month and 19 days. From London he travelled to St. Petersburg where he arrived in August 1782.

CHERNICHEFF is the name of a Russian who, about the same time as Yefremoff, or in 1780, travelled from Bokhara to Kashmir. He was told that in the mountains »to the right of the road from Cashghár to Yárc'hand the Indus had its source», by which the Shyok seems to be meant.¹

In another letter, from March 5, 1911, General von Stubendorff tells me that the Privy Counsellor KOBOKO had found, in the public library in Petersburg, a translation from Grusinian into Russian about DANIBEG'S journey to India.²

General Stubendorff writes that Danibeg's description contains even less details than that of Yefremoff, and what he has to say about the inhabitants and their customs cannot at all be compared with the corresponding parts of Yefremoff's narrative. Only the route which Danibeg has followed is of the greatest interest. It was in 1795, when Grusia was still an independent state, that the king, Irakli, sent Danibeg to Madras on a personal mission to a rich Armenian.

The traveller passed the following places, — here written in his own spelling: Achalzech, Arsrum, Mush, Arghana, Falu (Palu), Mertin (Mardin), Tikranakert (Diarbekir), Mossul, Babilon (Bagdad), Basra, and from there by ship *viâ* Maskat, Bombay, Columb (Colombo), Manar to Bondocheri over Cost-Malvar, then over land to Trakber (Tranguebar) and Madras. Here he found that the rich Armenian had died, but he could arrange matters with his son.

To become better acquainted with the country, Danibeg took a very long roundabout way in returning. With the intention of going to Bek or Ranchur (Rangoon) he went on board a ship which, however, was driven to Mushli-Bandar (Masulipatam?) by a storm and only from here he could start again for Rangoon. From this place he steered to Colcada (Calcutta), but after an 18 days' journey the ship was wrecked, and Danibeg was one of the four lucky ones who by the help

place he returned to Europe in an English frigate. In 1782, he arrived at Petersburg, where he published a narrative of his adventures, with some descriptions of the country he had visited in his travels.» *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, No. XIV, London 1843, p. 294.

Of the same traveller BRETSCHNEIDER has the following short information: »The first European who, after the Castilian ambassador (Clavijo), saw Samarkand, was the Russian subaltern Yefremof. He was made prisoner in 1774 by the Kirghizes at the frontier south of Orenburg, and sold to a Beg in Bokhara but he at length succeeded in escaping, and fled westward to Samarkand, Khokand, Marghilan, where he passed for a Nogai Tartar. Here he joined a caravan which was going to Kashgar and from Yarkand took the route to India via Tibet and Delhi. Having reached Calcutta, he embarked for Europe reached London, and in August 1782 St. Petersburg, where he published the narrative of his peregrinations.» *Mediaeval Researches, etc.* Vol. II, London 1910, p. 268.

¹ *Asiatic Researches* V, 1808: »An Essay on the Sacred Isles in the West» By Captain F. Wilford, p. 325. The section from Khodyent to Osh Wilford has improved from native information, and in this connection he quotes Strahlenberg and his map of Asia.

² *Putshestviye v Indiu Grusinskago dvorjanina Rafaila Danibegova perevod s Grusinskago*, Moskva 1815.