

regarded the Kwen-lun as a continuation of the range with the Kara-korum Pass and that the SCHLEGELIETS were the first to separate the two systems.

The same scholar, who was the most erudite specialist on Asia of his time, has said the following true words of Humboldt:

... er hatte kaum den Westrand der Centralgebirge von Asien berührt, und doch war er der erste, welcher, indem er das Missien von Andoren zusammenhängende Material

CHAPTER XX.

CARL RITTER.

Exactly the same may be said for himself, for though he gathered and digested in the most brilliant way all material on Central Asia existing at his

And in preceding volumes of this work we have dealt with those passages in CARL RITTER'S gigantic work which describe the Sacred Lake and the Transhimalayan regions.¹ In this connection we have only to remember what he has to communicate regarding the Kara-korum System, which, as we have seen in the case of HUMBOLDT, could not be much at so early a date.² As a rule the two scholars had the same views regarding the great features of the orography of Asia, though Ritter enters more in detail and makes use of all information known at his time, both from the western and the eastern literature. On the whole he concludes from the narratives of British explorers that north of the snow-covered Himalaya there must be a great table-land, but he quotes KLAPROTH on the three ranges: Himalaya, Dzang and Khor, and he adopts Humboldt's ranges: Kara-korum, Dzang and Hor. In respect to the Kara-korum Pass he is of the same opinion as Humboldt and places it on the Kwen-lun Range. But still on the maps by L. GRIMM illustrating his great work on the geography of Asia, the Kara-korum System plays a much more important part than in the text. On a diagram by Grimm, reproduced as Pl. VII in Vol. II,³ we find the Karakorum Geb. as a well-defined system, and the Baltä-Glätscher as another. Above the latter there is a legend which seems to be taken from the orography of Humboldt: Gebirgs-Knoten des Kuenlün, Karakorum und Thsung-ling. In the next volume we will see that Ritter regards the Ts'ung-ling as a part of the Kwen-lun, which is in immediate connection with, and even forms a part of, the transverse range of Bolor or Belur-Tagh.⁴

Ritter makes some interesting remarks on MIR IZZET ULLAH'S itinerary. The situation of the source of the Shayok is no secret to him: Die Quelle des Shayuk-

¹ Vol. II, p. 67 *et seq.* Vol. III, p. 83 *et seq.*, 90 *et seq. et passim.*

² RICHTHOFEN makes a brilliant comparison between HUMBOLDT and RITTER, and shows in classical words the importance of these two great scholars for geography as a science. *China*, I, p. 724. 725.

³ *Projections-Ansicht des Himälaja vom Hindu-kuh bis zum Langtan-Gebirg.*

⁴ *Die Erdkunde von Asien*, Band II, Dritter Theil. Berlin 1833, p. 411. — Cf. Vol. VIII.