

CHAPTER XXII.

CSOMA, ZIMMERMANN, HELMERSEN, AND OTHERS.

Before continuing our review of travellers and explorers who have personally visited the Kara-korum regions, I will quote a few extracts from the writings of authors, most of whom have arrived at their conclusions from descriptions and whose information is, therefore, second hand. Such a review must necessarily be rather heterogeneous, but the facts, even if far from being complete, may be of interest, and should not be omitted.

ALEXANDER CSOMA DE KÖRÖS has already been spoken of in connection with the Sacred Lake and Transhimalaya.¹ But still we have to return once more to his important *Geographical Notice of Tibet*.² As quoted above the Tibetans, according to Csoma, reckon six ranges of mountains running N. W.—S. E. from Himalaya to the plains of Tartary,

when viewed from Kangri in Nari, whence the ground commences to take on one side a northwestern, and on the other side a southeastern inclination. In the spacious valley, which is between the third and fourth range of the before-mentioned mountains, is the great road of communication between Ladak and Utsang. The principal countries or districts in this direction from northwest, are as follows: Beltistan or Little Tibet, Ladak, Teshigang, Gar or Garo (the lower and upper), Troshot, Tsang, U, Bhrigang. It is here likewise, that the two principal rivers, the Sengé k'ha-bab, and the Tsanpo take their course; that by Ladak to the northwest, and may be taken for the principal branch of

¹ Vol. II, p. 61, and Vol. III, p. 72.

² *Journal Asiatic Society of Bengal*, No. 4. April 1832, p. 121 *et seq.* It was reprinted in *The Chinese Repository*. Vol. XIII. October 1844, Nr. 10, under the following title and accompanied by a note: *Art. I Geographical Notice of Tibet; its divisions and principal cities, with notices of its lakes, glaciers, mines etc. From the Journal of the Asiatic Society.*

»(Note. This notice of Tibet was furnished to the Journal of the Asiatic Society in April 1832, by the late Alex. Csoma de Körös, who lived several years in the country, and is introduced into the Repository as a part of the series of geographical papers given in this work. In order to enable the reader to find some of the places mentioned in it on Chinese maps, the characters of those we have been able to recognize are given in notes. The radical difference, however, between the Tibetan and Chinese languages, and the absence of any positions given to the places, render it difficult to identify many of them.)»