

a constant sinking of its surface was easy to observe. It was sinking, not on account of desiccation, but by the gradual erosion of the outflowing water. The highest beach-lines were found at 25½ feet above the present level. It is hard to see why the lake should be salt if it had an outlet, unless he means that this had been cut off in later years.

After the slate, gneiss and granite appeared, and then, beyond Bash-malgun in the Kara-kash valley, greenstone and porphyry. At Sumgal they left the Kara-kash valley and turned north to Ilchi-davan. East of it the guide knew another pass, Yurung-kash-davan, the same which JOHNSON calls Yangi-davan. Ilchi-davan (17,379 feet) was surrounded by the *névés* of the Sumgal glacier to the south, and the Búshia-glacier to the north. August 25th they continued to Bushia where the Bushia-darya falls into the Khotan-darya, which itself joins the Kara-kash 15 miles below Ilchi, all information which he must have got from his guides. He adopts the division in Western and Eastern Kwen-lun, and he regards the Kwen-lun as the fourth range on the earth, considerably lower than the Kara-korum and Himalaya, but coming near the Andes.

August 29th, 1856, they went down the Kara-kash to its junction with the Suget River. On both sides of the Kara-kash valley, gneiss and mica slate was found. The Suget Pass is given as 17,683 feet high. September 4th they again crossed the Kara-korum Pass and returned to Leh the same way as before.

After having accomplished this journey the Schlagintweit brothers wrote:

We are fortunate enough to have been the first Europeans that ever crossed the chains of the Karakorum and of the Kuenlúen; Dr. Thomson had proceeded so far as to reach the Karakorum pass, but the Kuenlúen, erroneously considered as the watershed between Central Asia and India, had hitherto remained a perfectly unknown and unvisited territory, Marco Polo, in the 13th century, only penetrated in these parts as far south as Kashgar. ¹

At another place Hermann says: Als geographisch neu hatte sich ergeben, dass die Karakorum-Kette als die wasserscheidende Linie entgegtritt. Nach Norden, hatte man geglaubt, sei die Grenze des indisch-tibetischen Stromgebietes erst durch die Kette des Künlün gebildet, den übrigens damals kein Europäer, weder vom

printed in the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, never mentions their journeys and discoveries, nor does he know the volumes of their *Results* which were published before 1866.

¹ *Results of a Scientific Mission to India and High Asia, undertaken between the years MDCCCLIV and MDCCCLVIII, by order of the Court of Directors of the Honourable East India Company, by Hermann, Adolph, and Robert de Schlagintweit, with an Atlas of Panoramas, Views and Maps.* Vol. I, Leipzig and London MDCCCLXI, p. 25. — This Vol. contains astronomical and magnetic observations. — Vol. II, 1862, has the title *General Hypsometry of India, the Himalaya, and Western Tibet with sections across the Chains of the Karakorum and Kuenlúen.* — Vol. III, 1863, *Route-Book of the Western parts of the Himalaya, Tibet, and Central Asia; and Geographical Glossary from the languages of India and Tibet.* — Vol. IV, 1866: *Meteorology of India.* — Four big portfolios with panoramas, diagrams, views and a few maps illustrate this gigantic work.