

which geographers revere as the loftiest region of the earth, and which it has been the ambition of Humboldt through life to visit in person.» It is curious that it should take another 50 years before the great *terra incognita* beyond this northern frontier underwent a preliminary European survey!

In many communications and notices of the early volumes of his *Mitteilungen*, Dr. AUGUST PETERMANN mentions with great admiration the progress of the magnificent work carried out by the Survey of India.¹ In the volume of 1861,² is a little map by Petermann showing the Kara-korum Mountains as a very sharply demarcated range. The text to this map has the title: *Die englische Vermessung von Kashmir*, in which Petermann pays special attention to the important additions by VIGNE, STRACHEY, MONTGOMERIE, a. o. He reminds us of Major H. L. THUILLIER'S communication that, during the progress of the Survey, many peaks had been measured in the Kara-korum and Mus-tagh Range, and that then the height of the K 2 had been fixed at 28,278 feet. — In früheren geographischen Nachrichten und Reisebeschreibungen wird zwar öfters die bedeutende Höhe des zwischen Mustag- und Karakorum Pass gelegenen, bald Mustag benannten, bald zum Kuen Luen oder zum Karakorum-Gebirge gerechneten Bergzuges erwähnt; but in vain Petermann looks out for a more definite determination of the highest peak of the Kara-korum. STRACHEY and THOMSON did not know it better than VIGNE, and ADOLPH SCHLAGINTWEIT did not see it.

In an article: *Die Riesengletscher von West-Tibet*,³ we find an extract from MONTGOMERIE'S report in the *J. As. Soc. Bengal* 1862, a matter which is outside of our subject. PETERMANN adds: Wir dürfen hier nicht unerwähnt lassen, dass das grosse Schlagintweit'sche Werk über Indien und Hoch-Asien jene erhabene Gebirgs- und Gletscherwelt West-Tibets in mehreren Profilen und Gemälden vorgeführt hat.

In the year 1864 two very important and celebrated works appeared regarding the geography of Asia, namely: *Cathay and the way thither*, by Sir HENRY YULE; and *Die Post- und Reiserouten des Orients*, by A. SPRENGER. But already from the titles of these works we may suspect that they cannot possibly throw any light over the region interesting us.

A curious representation of our mountains was, at about the same time given on *Stanford's Library map of Asia* constructed by A. Keith Johnston, London 1862, Pl. LII. South of Yarkand it shows the Tsing-ling M^{ts}. which, S. W. of Khotan, divides into two branches, the northern one called Kuen-lun or Aneuta M^{ts}., the southern one, Kara-korum M^{ts}. Padishah. The two systems are joined by two ranges running

¹ E. g. in *Pet. Mit.* 1860, p. 196.

² P. 1.

³ *Pet. Mit.* 1863, p. 66.