

to where a remarkable double peak occurs in the Chain, and at this point throws out a somewhat irregular spur, named the Karatâgh, towards the Kuen-Luen, which forms the eastern crest of the high central plateau of Aktâgh. At this double peak the Karakoram range, after running with a general direction of E. S. E. from the Pusht-i-Khar, a distance of 320 miles, suddenly turns to the south, and, again rising into a lofty chain of snowy peaks considerably above 21,000 feet above sea-level, forms the watershed between the Shayok and Karakash rivers, until, in the parallel of  $34^{\circ} 43' N.$ , it trends again to the eastward, and runs along the head of Chang Chenmo; and here constitutes the southern crest of the elevated table-land known as the Lingzi Thung plains and the Aksai Chin.

Hayward then returned by the Suget-davan to Shahidullah. He further made the following important orographical and hydrographical discoveries:<sup>1</sup>

Hitherto our maps have represented the Kara-koram and Kwen-lun to be one and the same great chain, whereas a distinct watershed and the Yarkand and Karakash rivers intervene between the two ranges. On the other hand, the Tiznâf River has been defined as rising in the Karakoram Pass, and flowing through the Kuen-Luen range to its junction with the Yarkand River, which stream has been represented to have its source at the head of the Sarikol territory, near the source of Wood's Oxus. This is entirely wrong. The Tiznâf is but a tributary of the Yarkand River, and rises on the northern slope of the Kuen Luen to the east of where the Yangi Pass crosses that range. — It would be satisfactory were a definite geographical name assigned to the great watershed dividing the basin of the Indus from the Turkistan rivers, and which is comprised in the great chain known, in the different portions of its length, as the Karakoram, Muztâgh, and more anciently Belortâgh, and Pololo. To the inhabitants of Eastern Turkistan, the whole chain is known as the Muztâgh Range, which in Turki means the »Glacier Mountain» or range; the word Karakoram being merely applied to the pass of that name. That the name Karakoram should be given to the range indefinitely is desirable for the sake of distinction and the Karakoram Range, as specified in the report, will be understood to refer to the whole mountain system, included in the chain stretching from the Pusht-i-Khar to the head of Chang-Chenmo.

The Sanju-davan (16,612) is situated in the Kilian range, which is a spur from the Western Kwen-lun and bounds the Kara-kash valley on the north.

Then Hayward says:

A cursory glance at the map suffices to show that the most direct route from the north-west provinces of India to Yarkand must, after reaching Chang-Chenmo, cross the main chains of the Karakoram and Kuen-Luen and the intervening high land of Aktâgh, in a general direction bearing N. N. W. I have endeavoured to show that the true road into Eastern Turkistan from Aktâgh is down the valley of the Yarkand River and across the Kuen-Luen Range by the Yangi Pass, and it remains to point out the most direct route by which Aktâgh can be reached from Chang Chenmo. This is the route we followed on our return; from the Chang Lang Pass leading across the Karakoram Range it traverses the western side of the Lingzi Thung plains, and entering the upper valley of the Karakash River, conducts down that valley and across the Karatâgh Pass of Aktâgh.

Finally we should remember these words, which, except for a few mistakes, are perfectly correct:<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 65.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 118.