

CHAPTER XXXVII.

EDUARD SUESS.

In 1883 Colonel H. H. GODWIN-AUSTEN made an attempt to classify the Tibetan mountain ranges.¹ He separates the great Central Asian chain into five principal divisions, with some minor subdivisions, *viz.*: 1. The main axis or Central Asian chain, Kuenlun, 2. Trans-Himalaya, 3. Himalaya, 4. Outer or Lower Himalaya, and 5. Sub-Himalaya.²

The name Himalaya, he says, should certainly never be applied to the mountains north of the Upper Indus. »For this north-west, Trans-Indus part of the Asian chain we have the wellknown name Mustagh, so far as the head of the Gilgit valley; the Hindu Kush being an excellent term now in common use for its extension to the Afghan country.»

Godwin-Austen's Trans-Himalaya covers, as I have said before, only a small portion of my Transhimalaya. He has a feeling of great uncertainty regarding the mountains north of the Tsangpo. »In our present state of ignorance as to the composition of the chain eastward from the source of the Sutlej, we cannot attempt to lay down there any axis lines of original elevation.»

Regarding the names Mustagh and Kara-korum, Godwin-Austen expresses his views thus: »I have adopted the term Mustagh as one wellknown to the people on both sides of the range, and better known than Karakoram, applied by them to the pass of that name. The Karakoram pass also lies on an axis of elevation further to the north and intermediate between the Mustagh and Kuenlun.»

Clearer and more positively than anybody before him, Godwin-Austen fixes the position of the Mustagh axis, or, as we prefer to say, that of the Great Karakorum. According to him it commences near Kila Panza in Wakhan, and stretches by the Baroghil and Kerambar Passes to the high peaks dominating the Hunza

¹ *Cp.* Vol. III, p. 230 *et seq.*

² *The Central Asian chain.* *Nature*, Oct. 4. 1883, p. 552 *et seq.* The same lecture, which was read to the Geographical Section of the British Association, was also published in the *Proceedings of the Roy. Geo. Soc.* Vol. V. 1883, p. 610 *et seq.*