

with eternal snow; between them different passes are situated, as for instance: Kara-korum and Kara-tag, arriving at an absolute height of 18,500 and 17,700 feet.

Regarding the Gang-dis-ri Range as it was described by HODGSON and SAUNDERS, though much better known by the Chinese, he has the following passage:

In the southern part of Tibet a mountain range, called by some geographers and travellers Gang-dis-ri, stretches nearly parallel with the Himalaya. This range forms the southern boundary of the plateau-land of Katshi and borders at its eastern end upon the transverse snow group of Nin-chen-tan-la which separates the basin of the lake Tengri-nor from the tributaries of the rivers Brahmaputra and Nap-chu.¹

In 1889 Major-General DONALD MACINTYRE touches slightly upon our mountains.

He mentions an offshoot of the Kugrang called Chang Loong Koongma.

It runs up parallel to, and eight or ten miles west of, Chang Loong Yokma, leading to the desert plain of Lingzitang, averaging over 17,000 feet, across which vast elevated waste lies the route to Yarkand.

Of the world of gigantic glaciers he exclaims:

Any attempt of mine to describe the glacier scenery of the Spiti and Lahoul mountains, through which our way led for several days, would be quite inadequate to convey the slightest idea of its wild grandeur. Suffice it to say that the longest of Alpine glaciers, the Aletsch, which is some twenty miles in length, cannot be compared in size with many of those in the Himalayas, the largest of which are found in the Kara-korum range, far to the north-west of Cashmere and Ladak.²

In the same year, 1889, DUTREUIL DE RHINS published his great work on Central Asia. We do not need to enter upon his complicated deductions here.³ Among other things he »rectified» the old Chinese itinerary from Khotan to Tengri-nor and Lhasa, and brought it in accordance with the knowledge of 1889. The itinerary was unknown to D'ANVILLE, but was exactly copied by KLAPROTH. From the *Wei tsang tu tche, de Rhins* gives the following extract of the itinerary crossing the whole of Tibet diagonally and, therefore, also the Kara-korum System:

Quand on se dirige au nord-ouest de Lhasa, on passe par Yang ba dzian et on suit la route du Galdzan koutcha (ou mieux: pays des Khatsi) Jusqu'à la rivière du Lièvre blanc (en chinois: Pe thou ho) on a presque toujours de hautes montagnes à passer et des chemins très difficiles On passe par Nak tsang et on traverse le désert sablonneux de Gobi où s'étendent les monts Kerie la (monts Keria qui sont couverts de neiges et de brouillards pestilentiels) Au delà du Kerie la, on arrive sur le grand chemin qui conduit à Yarkand et à la Nouvelle Frontière (Frontière nord-ouest de l'empire chinois établie sous Kianglong après la conquête de la petite Boukharie).

¹ З. Матусовскій: *Географическое Обзоръние Китайской Имперіи*. С.-Петербургъ, 1888. p. 322 et seq.

² *Hindu-koh: Wanderings and Wild Sport on and beyond the Himalayas*. London MDCCCLXXXIX, p. 307 and 371.

³ *L'Asie centrale (Thibet et Régions limitrophes)*. — Texte et Atlas par J. L. Dutreuil de Rhins. Paris 1889, p. 556. Cp. Vol. III, *supra*, p. 55.