

problem. »The Tibetan continuation of the Kara-korum, which is still almost unknown, commences at the famous central peak or knot called Kailas by the Hindus, and Gangri by the Tibetans.» He regards this gigantic system, the Kara-korum—Gangri—Nien-chen-tang-la, as the northern range of the Himalayan System, and the southern buttressing range of the great Chang or Tibetan Plateau, as the Kwen-lun is the northern buttressing range. In very clear words, and referring to all the meagre material existing, Markham thus sketched the principal features; the skeleton of the fascinating problem.

In 1891 and 1896 three important British expeditions crossed certain parts of the Western Kara-korum. Starting from Ladak and Panggong-tso Captain H. BOWER travelled, June and July 1891, north-eastwards to Lanak-la and Mangtsa-tso. He does not mention the Kara-korum, but north and south of Mangtsa-tso he has Snowy M<sup>ts</sup> on his map.<sup>1</sup>

As to the configuration of the country Bower says:

The whole of Central and Northern Tibet, and almost the whole of Western Tibet is known as the Chang. It consists of a high tableland with hills, mostly of a rounded character; but here and there sharply defined snowy ranges are met with. The mountains have a general east and west tendency, but no defined watershed exists; rivers may be met flowing in almost any direction, and all terminate in large salt lakes. These lakes appear to have been at one time much larger than they now are, as unmistakable signs that they are drying up are to be seen.<sup>2</sup>

In 1896 Captain H. H. P. DEASY<sup>3</sup> and Captain M. S. WELLBY<sup>4</sup> also crossed the Lanak-la, without adding any new important facts to our knowledge of the Kara-korum System.

<sup>1</sup> *Diary of a Journey across Tibet.* London 1894.

<sup>2</sup> *A Journey across Tibet.* *Geogr. Journal*, Vol. I, 1893, p. 385 *et seq.*

<sup>3</sup> *Journeys in Central Asia.* *Geogr. Journal*, Vol. XVI, 1900, p. 141 and 501. *In Tibet and Chinese Turkestan.* London 1901.

<sup>4</sup> *Through unknown Tibet.* London 1898.