

CHAPTER XLI.

DUTREUIL DE RHINS AND F. GRENARD.

The important exploration of PIEVTSOFF, together with BOGDANOVITCH, ROBO-ROVSKIY and KOSLOFF, carried out in 1889—91, belongs to the largest extent to Eastern Turkestan and the northern regions of the Kwen-lun, and does not touch the regions of Tibet in which my last exploration falls and to which I have limited this history of Tibetan exploration. Be it sufficient to say that general Pievtsoff was a worthy successor of the great PRSHEVALSKIY.

DUTREUIL DE RHINS, on the other hand, crossed our mountain systems belonging to the Kara-korum, twice. In 1891 he had reconnoitred the district south of Pular and in August of the following year he set out across the mountains. Together with FERNAND GRENARD he reached the foot of the immense and magnificent glaciers from which the Keriya-darya takes its source. By a pass 5,550 meters high they crossed the range of the Kwen-lun which they call Ustun-tagh »The upper mountain«, which was now for the first time traversed by travellers from the north. From the other side the water does not flow to Eastern Turkestan. Great difficulties forced the travellers to turn to the S. W. in the direction of inhabited country.

To the lake Sumji-tso they followed nearly the same road which had been taken by Carey in the opposite direction. On ne voyait rien qu'une succession de collines ternes, parfois blanchies de neige, se trainant tristes et basses comme lasses d'être montées si haut.¹

August 25th they reached the Yeshil-köl. Grenard says this lake is two days from the source of Keriya-darya. From Yeshil-köl they followed a series of long valleys between mountain ranges south of which appeared the peaks of *gangris* belonging to a third range nearly parallel with the Ustun-tagh and Altyn-tagh.

Having passed the Tashlik-köl and Sumji-tso they met, September 4th, the first Tibetan. He belonged to a camp situated amongst snowy mountains. Ce lieu

¹ J. L. Dutreuil de Rhins. *Mission Scientifique dans La Haute Asie, 1890—95*. Vol. I. Paris 1897, p. 114 *et seq.* Edited by F. Grenard.