

Regarding the supposed Lake Lighten he here says that WELLBY'S route probably »lay a little to the south near the smaller body which is marked with broken lines, and which I saw only from a distance». And further: »This apparently is the lake seen at a distance by Captain Deasy, and suggested by Dr. Stein as the probable source of the Khotan river (!). If this be true, its waters doubtless reappear after flowing through underground channels — a thing not infrequent in these regions.»

Finally Captain ANGINIEUR has written a little book on the same journey.<sup>1</sup> He states they represented the fourth expedition making the route from Polu over the Kwen-lun to Ladak, the predecessors being DUTREUIL DE RHINS and GRENARD, CAREY, and DEASY. Now we are told that they, after having crossed the volcanic region, reached the lakes Atchikoul and Oulongkoul and from a pass of 5,500 m. descended to the valley situated east of Baba Hatoun and being that of the Keriya-darya.

»Continuant à remonter la rivière, nous atteignons ses sources.» He tells us that it was on account of insufficient supplies that they had to give up their original goal, Rudok, and turn to Leh *via* Lanak-la. »La vallée dans laquelle nous cheminons est bordée de chaque côté de chaînes de montagnes infranchissables se prolongeant vers l'ouest.» Then comes the lake, which was 15 km. long and had no outlet, and after it a small lake. To the left and at a considerable distance »a great river» was seen. »Nous retournant, au lieu de nos deux lacs, nous n'en voyons qu'un seul, mais immense, d'où sort le fleuve. Puis, devant nous, nous apercevons un autre lac, dont les eaux surélevées se dressent comme une muraille.» One cannot help getting bewildered.

They went to the N. W. finding the way to the S. W. closed by high mountains. From a pass 5,650 m. high they had to return. »Le 2 Octobre, nous sommes de retour sur les bords de la rivière dont nous avons découvert les sources.» They had no instruments and did not know where they were. Therefore they sent a couple of their men to look out for natives. In the meantime they had to wait for 11 days until these scouts returned with Kirgises and camels. The Kirgises refused to take them to Lanak-la as they had never been there. But they told the travellers that the river they had followed so far was the Kara-kash — »nous ne l'avions jamais supposé. Il en résulte que nous sommes beaucoup plus au Nord que nous ne le pensions.» Thus they followed the Kara-kash for some 60 kilometers to the N. W. And shortly afterwards they reached the great road, and October 26th the Kara-korum Pass.

From this pass they went down through a gorge, »la plus belle que j'aie jamais vue. Sur ses flancs, des rochers géants se dressent dominés par des pics gris et rouges et des glaciers; au fond, un amas de blocs énormes jetés pêle mèle

<sup>1</sup> *En Asie Centrale. Turkestan-Tibet-Cachemir (1903).* Paris 1904.