

Oestreich uses the name Transhimalaya and explains his meaning of it in the following words:

Mit diesem in der Literatur sehr verbreiteten Namen sei der Kürze halber die sonst so schwer als einheitlicher Komplex zu fassende Gesamtheit des Gebirgslandes zwischen Kashmir und dem Indus bezeichnet.<sup>1</sup>

About the same time Prince P. KRAPOTKIN published his article *The Orography of Asia*, in which he classifies the mountain ranges of the whole interior of the great continent. KRAPOTKIN subdivides his »Great Plateau of East Asia» into 1. The lofty terrace of Tibet, itself subdivided into two terraces and with an appendage in the Pamirs; 2. N. W. Mongolia, continued in the Vitim plateau; and 3. the lower terrace including the Tarim depression and the Gobi.

Entering upon the details of the »Tibet Terrace» he adds:

A series of chains of mountains having their foot on the plateau and separated from each other by high longitudinal valleys, 14,000 to 15,000 feet of altitude, run parallel to the Himalayas, and of these, the Karakoram mountains rise high above the snow-line, their loftiest peak, the Dapsang, being only 300 feet lower than the Gaurisankar.<sup>2</sup>

The different theories of Krapotkin are of great interest, though sometimes built up rather on his brilliant imagination than on real solid observation. He uses the word plateau, and cannot accept the substitute »peneplain» proposed by American geologists, a view with which I heartily sympathise. His general orographical map reproduced here as Pl. LXX, is interesting so far as it gives the boundaries of the Tibetan Plateau, and he differentiates between the border ranges of the plateau and the chains of mountains having their foot on the plateau, proving that he is familiar with the important part played by the enormous deposits of the interior of Tibet. However, he has not been able to abolish the phantastic range running S. W.—N. E. across the Indo-Chinese rivers and introduced by RICHTHOFEN and SAUNDERS. It is surprising that anybody could believe in its existence still so late as in 1904.

In France the views of DUTREUIL DE RHINS regarding the general orography were still sometimes accepted. L. DE MILLOUÉ writes for instance:<sup>3</sup>

Le système orographique du Tibet peut être considéré, dans son ensemble général, comme formant deux vastes plateaux séparés par une région sensiblement plus basse et beaucoup moins accidentée. L'un, le plateau du Tibet proprement dit est limité au sud par l'Himâlaya, et au nord par une chaîne de moindres hauteurs qui court à peu près parallèle à la courbe qui décrit l'Himâlaya. L'autre, que l'on peut appeler le plateau des Nanchan, ou Montagnes du Sud, est délimité par la chaîne des Kouen-loun, au nord, et au sud par une autre chaîne courant du nord-est au sud-ouest, des monts Bayan-kara au Gandi-séri.

<sup>1</sup> Op. cit., p. 48.

<sup>2</sup> *Geographical Journal*. Vol. XXIII, 1904, p. 176 and 331 et seq.

<sup>3</sup> *Bod-youl ou Tibet (le Paradis des moines)*. Paris 1906, p. 14.