

CHAPTER XLVIII.

ECKENSTEIN, GUILLARMOD AND PFANNL. — FERBER AND HONIGMANN.

If we stick to the chronological development of our knowledge of the Karakorum System we have now to remember the expedition described by Dr. J. JACOB GUILLARMOD and in which the following other members took part: O. ECKENSTEIN, who was the leader of the expedition, A. E. CROWLEY, M. G. KNOWLES, PFANNL and WESSELY.¹ During the spring of 1902 the expedition went up to Askole on well-known routes. One of the chief objects of the expedition seems to have been to approach K₂ as near as possible, for since GODWIN-AUSTEN only CONWAY had been near it. When leaving Askole the expedition consisted of six Europeans and 230 men.

On the Braldo River they reached a little plain — »au bout de laquelle on aperçoit la masse imposante de l'extrémité inférieure du glacier de Biafo. La rivière qui s'en échappe ne se jette pas directement dans le Braldoh; elle le suit parallèlement pendant une heure environ, ce qui oblige à gagner le dos du glacier et à s'en servir comme d'un pont naturel». Using CONWAY'S map they went over the snout of the glacier and arrived at Korofon. The following passage reminds us very much of what Conway had observed ten years before.²

Actuellement, ce glacier ne s'étend pas plus loin que le Braldoh, et son extrême limite est marquée par la rive droite de la rivière. Depuis l'époque où les topographes en firent le relevé (1861), il a pu se retirer un peu; mais, comparées à son énorme masse des variations aussi minimes sont sans importance. D'autre part, le glacier est relativement petit, si on le compare aux puissants systèmes de courants glaciaires qui s'écoulaient autrefois par ces vallées. On voit partout des traces d'anciennes glaciations sur les pentes septentrionales du Mango-Gusor, jusqu'à 1000 mètres au moins au-dessus du fond de la vallée.

Instead of going up to the bridge as CONWAY had done, they preferred to cross the river near the principal valley, which took place in the beginning of June when the volume of water is no doubt generally less than in August. GUILLARMOD says that CONWAY gives the distance to Bardumal as being 2½ miles, whereas his

¹ *Six mois dans l'Himalaya, le Karakorum et l'Hindu-Kush.* Neuchatel 1903 (?).

² *Op. cit.*, p. 148.