

slightly interrupted by the low threshold of Nima-lung-la (4920 m.), the open plain of Bongba-Kebyang, and finally the valley of Buptsang-tsangpo the whole way to 30° North Lat. In its present state this valley is no doubt chiefly a work of erosion, but its relation to the ranges on both sides makes it likely that the valley originally was pressed down and forced to sink. The rest of the sculpture has been achieved by erosion. The same may be said of the deep valley going down from the S. E. side of Samye-la (5527 m.), and which may be regarded as the continuation of the long depression north of the pass. The valley of the lower course of the Chaktak-tsangpo is a direct continuation of this long depression which practically cuts the whole Transhimalaya into a western and an eastern part, the latter again being cut by a third meridional line of sunken ground.

As to our first transverse line, with Rakas-tal to its west and Manasarovar to its east, its nature is more difficult to explain. We have here a fine example of Burrard's law that »the several parallel ranges of the Himalaya and Tibet tend to culminate in sympathy with each other». The strong stresses from east and west which have forced the folds to culminate on one meridional line, may also have forced the crust on both sides to sink down, forming the two depressions which gradually have been filled with water. Burrard also observes the fact that very often the passage of a river across a range occurs near the highest part of it. He tries to explain this phenomenon of contrast in different ways, one of which seems very well to suit the ordinary combination of high mountains in the immediate vicinity of deep lake depressions, the latter being a general occurrence in Tibet. His hypothesis is the following: »It may be that, as one portion of the earth's crust becomes elevated to a great height, an adjacent portion becomes depressed, in accordance with the theory of isostasy.» This seems to have been the case with the meridional line of the Kailas, the isthmus, and Gurla-mandata, as this transverse fold has a sunken part of the crust at each side. Though the general morphology at Tengri-nor is very different, the same rule occurs here.

We have seen that the Kailas Range could be traced the whole way to Surnge-la, and very likely it continues E. S. E. to the north of Gunchu-tso and Maryum-la.

Directing now our attention to the Transhimalaya, we first meet the N. W. — S. E. running range of Ding-la which probably reaches the Tsangpo in the vicinity of Tangyung (5760 m.). In its N. W. part I crossed this range at Chargo-ding-la (5885 m.). It may be that the range continues to the N. W. from the pass and that it is in connection with the Pundit's Nakchel-gangri and Nakchel-la, and perhaps with one of my passes near the source of the Indus; for instance Dam-tärngo-la, (4991 m.), or even Lamo-latse-la (5426 m.). Its length would thus be about 210 km.

Proceeding eastwards we come across a small range to which the two mountains of Lavar-naglep and Gang-chen seem to belong. This range is only 100 km. in length.