

CHAPTER III.

THE THIRD CROSSING OF THE KASHGAR RANGE.

The whole summer of 1894 was given up to wanderings and excursions amongst the glaciers of *Mus-tagh-ata*, and to an excursion to *Alichur Pamir* and *Yeshil-kul*. My experiences from this time are described in *Through Asia*, Vol. I, in *Petermanns Mitteilungen, Zeitschrift der Ges. für Erdkunde zu Berlin*, and elsewhere. In this connection we are concerned only with my different crossings of the *Kashgar System* of mountain ranges, and we have now arrived at the third crossing, beginning October 9th, 1894, and being my return journey from *Mus-tagh-ata* via *Igis-yar* to *Kashgar*.

I started from *Little Kara-kul* which is at an altitude of 3,720 m., and proceeded north-eastwards to the valley of *Ike-bel-su* and up this river, the southern feeder of *Gez-darya*, in a E. S. E. and S. E. direction, to the aul of *Tuya-kuiruk* at an altitude of 3,884 m. The distance is 18 km., the rise 164 m. and the rate of ascent 1:110. The place where we reached the river is called *Keng-shvär*. In the summer we had seen the *Ike-bel-su* as a very mighty river, now it had only 2 or 3 cub. m. of water per second. From the *Korumde Glacier* to the south it received a tributary of about 1 cub. m. per second. A part of the valley is called *Tokus-bulak*. Three northern tributaries are called *Shevakte*, *Chekanak* and *Teres-ösö*. *Tuya-kuiruk* is a wide open part of the valley where now four tents of *Karaites* were pitched; the inhabitants are also *karaulchis*. At *Keng-shvär* were also four tents. The winter is cold but there is not much snow. The prevailing wind comes from the S. W. and is hard. The river is covered with thick ice in winter, but there is always some water flowing.

On October 10th our road goes 23 km. N. E., E., E. S. E., S. S. E. and S. E. up through the valley to *Tur-bulung*, where the altitude is 4,317 m., or a rise of 433 m. at a rate of 1:53.

Our camp of *Tuya-kuiruk* was at some distance south of the *Ike-bel-su*, so we had to return to its course, crossing heaps of old moraines and the brook that still carries half a cubic meter of water per second from the little *Tuya-kuiruk Glacier*