

there are Tajiks on the *Tagharma* plain, and there are Kirgizes in *Taghdumbash Pamir*.

The next valley from the *Sarikol* side is the *Cherbasin-jilga*. All the water-courses of the *Tagharma* basin by and by join the *Kara-su* and flow to the gorge of *Tengi* by which they pierce the little range of *Shosh-davan*. At the end of this they join the *Taghdumbash-darya* and go down to the junction with the *Raskan-darya*. Before reaching the *Tengi* passage, the *Kara-su* gives rise to a swampy region with soft and unreliable ground called *Birgaul*. Here is the *aul* of the same name with four tents at one place and four at another. To the south the landscape is magnificent. To our right we leave the little pass *Shosh-davan* with a road to *Tash-kurgan* and forming the southern boundary of the *Tagharma* plain.

S. E. of *Cherbasin* the side valleys, *Shosh*, *Meidan* and *Shinde* come from the *Sarikol* Mountains. The last-mentioned is large and has a comfortable road to the *Ak-su* or *Murgab*. The *Shinde* valley comes from the S. S. W. and represents a characteristic feature in the landscape.

About 2 km. S. E. of *Birgaul* our road enters the *Tengi* gorge in which the *Kara-su* takes its winding course between the mountain-sides, sometimes leaving narrow belts for meadows. The rest of the floor of the valley is covered with gravel, and erosion terraces of pebble and shingle are as usual developed. Crystalline schist is prevalent, at the left side in 25° S. 80° E. At its end the *Tengi* gorge becomes broader and finally it joins the *Taghdumbash-darya*. The joint river, continuing eastwards, pierces the *Kashgar Range* in the narrow and wild gorge of *Shinde-jilga* which is said to be quite filled up by the river, allowing a passage only on the ice in the winter. Just at the junction of *Kara-su* and *Taghdumbash-darya* the *Dershet* valley enters from the N. E., and in the background the mountains round *Chicheklik-davan* are visible.

From the junction our direction becomes south, and the ground rises slowly. We are now in the broad valley of *Taghdumbash-darya*, which is much bigger and has clearer water than the *Kara-su*; the latter being fed by the muddy brooks from the glaciers. To our right, or west, we have the hills and screes from the ramification of *Shosh*. In the distance *Tash-kurgan* is visible on its terrace in the valley. The road is good and hard, and along the banks of the river there are excellent grazing-grounds.

We pass by the Tajik village of *Chushman* consisting of 45 small clay houses with groves of willows and cultivated fields. There are also flocks of sheep, goats and cattle. The Tajiks are regarded as more well-to-do than the Kirgiz. Sometimes the ruins of forts and houses are seen. The river is divided into several winding branches of clear, greenish-blue water. The brook from the large *Shinde* valley is