

Halted at 3 a.m. at an inn, without anybody in charge, near a small spring. A Turk's house was close by.

*August 3.*—Started at 6.10 a.m., still ascending the gorge. The stream cuts through one range of hills, on the north side of which was a sea of broken hillocks leading up to a second range, the ascent of which, for a quarter of a mile, was very steep, and took an hour and a half. It is covered with pebbles. At the summit is a small house where water is sold. The descent is easy, but lasts all the way to Kizil, where we arrived at 3.10. All along the road, pillars, made by Yakoob Beg, were erected at intervals of ten li. We put up at a good inn on the left bank of the river which fertilizes the Kizil lands, but the main part of the village is on the opposite bank.

Weather cloudy; thunderstorms in the hills.

*August 4.*—Started at 5.10 a.m., and had to cross the river close to the inn. It was swollen by rain, and divided into four channels, two of which were up to a man's waist; three hundred yards broad, and flowing with a rapid current. We had two men to lead the cart over, as sometimes carts are swept away bodily in these freshets. The land was cultivated for a mile on the other side, and all along the banks of the river below the village as far as I could see.

At 8.50 we passed through the village of Sarám, which is surrounded by a wall about two hundred yards square, now in ruins. Outside the village were the remains of barracks, now unoccupied. From this place to Bai the country was cultivated for the greater part of the way, being level and watered by numerous streams running down from the mountains. The road was lined with trees the whole way, and the country looked extremely pretty with the snowy mountains in the background. Wheat, oats, and maize were the chief crops. Reaping was just beginning. A noticeable thing in this country is the absence of local carts. They are not used at all for farm purposes or for