

very gracefully to me, too, as the things were brought into the house. They insisted upon my having some tea, and the lady produced a tray with some bread, and flowers, and I parted from them very favourably impressed with my first experience of Turki hospitality.

We travelled on till midday, and then halted to dry our things, for my clothes-bag was full of water. At sunset the mosquitoes came in swarms; and though we lighted four fires to smoke them off, it had no effect. We were to start at 1 A.M., and I lay down between the fires, but could not get a wink of sleep, which was rather hard after having been up till one the night before.

There is little noteworthy to record of the journey between Karashar and Kuchê the next town at which we arrived. The oases were more frequent and larger than in the country farther east, but otherwise there was little difference, and we travelled rapidly on only anxious to reach the buttress ranges of the Himalayas in time to be able to cross into India before winter effectually closed the passes.

On August 2, we arrived at the Kuchê