

and that it was his business to convey me, like a bundle of goods, from one side of China to the other, he worked untiringly. And the success of the journey is in no small degree due to this single servant, who had served me loyally, and had not feared to accompany me throughout.

From Rawal Pindi I proceeded to Simla, and there saw Colonel Bell, from whom I had parted at Peking, and who, travelling more rapidly than I did, had reached India a month before. To him, therefore, belongs the honour of being the first European to reach India from China by land. But I think I may fairly claim for myself the distinction of being the only human being who has travelled continuously through, from the shores of the Pacific on the one side to the plains of India on the other. From the Manchurian port of Possiet Bay, and from the banks of the Sungari, I had made my way across the entire breadth of the Chinese Empire, and had now reached the first cantonment in British India.

I had travelled for nigh upon seven thousand miles over the richly-cultivated lands of Manchuria and the barren Desert of Gobi, through