

in narrow gorge and at 6 miles from Chung Tash are hot springs on right bank. A little fuel, but no grass. One mile above hot springs valley opens for a mile then closes again. Road in parts stony and bad. River has to be crossed frequently; small patches of fuel in side nullahs. Good camping ground at bend of river to east, where large nullah from west joins. Fuel and grass abundant.

21. Camp Tak Marpo (height 15,000 feet), 11 miles.—Valley opens out for 3 miles. Zinchin on right bank. Fuel and grass. Valley then narrows; road encumbered by huge boulders and masses of rubbish; very difficult for laden animals; camp under yellow rock on left bank. Fuel and grass at intervals all the way.
22. Camp Polong Karpo (height 14,600 feet), 21 miles.—Valley opens out and travelling good. At 8 miles is broad valley on left with abundant fuel, after which fuel is to be found all along in main valley; grass very scarce. At 16 miles valley narrows and turns to north, fuel becomes more plentiful. At Polong Karpo is a huge rock in bed of valley on left bank; good camping ground; grass abundant.
23. Camp Sora (height 14,000 feet).—At 5 miles river takes sharp bend to north-west into broad valley at foot of Kuen Luen. For 2 miles on either side of the bend is no fuel or grass. Ground at Sora covered with natural salt pans. Good camping ground. Fuel and grass abundant.
24. Jungle Camp, 17 miles.—Camp at mouth of small ravine. Opposite mouth of Karajilga ravine. Fuel and grass abundant.
25. Gulbashem, (height 12,390 feet), 42½ miles.—Road down valley good; and grass and fuel abundant everywhere, except for 2 miles above Gulbashem. 12 miles above Gulbashem the river is much increased by springs. Gulbashem is a favourite Kirghiz camping ground.
26. Balakchi, 10 miles.—Grass and fuel.
27. Shahidúla (height 11,780 feet), 13 miles.—Small deserted fort on left bank of the Karakash. Grass and fuel abundant. At 6 miles strike road from Sugat Pass; road good. Though parts of the road are practicable for guns and wheeled carriage, it is on the whole only available for camels or horses.

ROUTE IIIa.

Variation on No. III. (Captain Trotter, September and October 1873). From Gogra (Station 11 of Route III) to Shahidula (No. 27 of Route III).

1. Kotajilga (height 16,730 feet), 8 miles.—Road up stream the whole way good, but somewhat difficult for loaded ponies, as there are several steep ascents and descents in crossing tributary streams, which in the autumn contain only a few inches of water. Pass ravine on right leading to Nischu as per Captain Biddulph's route. At the camp, grass, water, and wood procurable.
2. Pangtong (height 17,250 feet), 7½ miles.—Steady and gentle ascent through a broad stony ravine for four miles, then somewhat steeper. Camping ground covered with snow, but grass and an inferior fuel said to be plentiful.
3. Sumzungling (height 17,310 feet), 15 miles.—Steady and not very steep ascent to the Changlung Pass (18,910 feet). The road then passes over a high table-land for about a mile, after which it enters a ravine along which it passes for 9½ miles of execrable road, crossing the stream in numerous places before reaching the camping ground at the junction of three nullas. Water and a little grass on a neighbouring hill, but no fuel, one of the worst marches on the whole road, as the number of recently dead animals that strewed the road too surely testified.