

6. Shugeh, 18 miles.—A small post-house; road all the way through tree jangal.
7. Maralbashi (height      ), 14 miles.—Small village and fort; road through tree jangal and high grass. Maralbashi is at the junction of Kashghar road, with road from Yárkand to Aksu. Carts travel freely all the way.

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ROUTE VI.

KASHGHAR TO CHADYRKUL, CAPTAIN TROTTER.

Kashghar (Yangi-shahr) to—

1. Besák, Upper Artysh (height 5,290 feet), 26 miles.—Road leaves on left at 5½ miles the old city of Káshghar, and then crosses the Tuman (Káshghar) river by a good bridge; passes through numerous gardens into an open stony plain, and then through a gap in a low range of hills, beyond which lies the district of Osten Artysh, consisting of numerous scattered townships.
2. Chung Terek, or "Big poplar tree, (height 7,000 feet), 20 miles.—Road passes over level plain and then up the gently sloping Toyanda valley. Road good but stony; pass *en route* the old Chinese outpost of Teshektash and the small village of Tupa; a small Kirghiz village at camp.
3. Chakmák Forts (height 8,830 feet), 20 miles.—The road continues up the Toyanda valley and passes through precipitous hills rising some 3,000 feet above the bed of the stream, which has to be frequently crossed, both on this and the last march. At 12 miles pass the "Past Kurghan" or Lower Fort, garrisoned by a detachment from the larger forts at Chák-mák further on. A few Kirghiz tents *en route*, but no other habitations. From Chák-mák a road goes across the hills to the east to the Terekty Forts.
4. Balghùn Báshi (height 10,540 feet), 10 miles.—The road continues up stream, and at about eight miles passes the Suok outpost at the junction of two streams from the Suok and Turgat passes. The former is two days' journey in a north-west direction by a very difficult road; two miles above the outpost is the camp, where plenty of fire-wood, though but little or no grass.
5. Turgat Bela (height 11,090 feet), 15 miles.—Road always up stream at first through precipitous hills, which open out somewhat as the camp is approached. Occasional Kirghiz tents; plenty of grass near camp; but fuel very scarce.
6. To Chadyrkul (Lake), 20 miles.—13 miles to the crest of the Turgat Pass, a gentle ascent right up to the foot of the pass, from which to the crest (12,760 feet) there is an ascent of about 400 feet in a distance of a mile. From the pass the road passes along a spur for about three miles, and then rapidly descends to the lake, which lies about 1,500 feet lower than the pass. Plenty of grass, but little or no fuel obtainable.

The road from Kashghar to Chadyrkul is good throughout, and could with very little labour be made available for light carts and field guns. In January a little snow lay by the roadside to the north of the pass, but none whatever on the south side.

The route just described is on the main caravan route between Kashghar and Almati (Fort Vernoye), for details of which maps can be consulted.

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ROUTE VII.

KASHGHAR TO BELOWTI PASS, (CAPTAIN TROTTER) FEBRUARY 1874.

(On road to Ush Turfan.)

Kashghar (Yangi-Shahr) to—

1. Altyn Artysh (height 4,100 feet), 22 miles.—Over plain for a great part of the way; road good; pass Kashghar River by wooden bridge (in cold season), and subsequently