

CHAPTER XI

Departure for Tibet—Chinese post—Tolan Khoja valley—Second journey to Tibet—Atish Pass—Shor Kul—Digging for water—The Kiria River—Yepal Ungur—Bad weather—Reconnoitring—Raju leaves for Polu—Journey to Aksu—Beginning triangulation—Return to Yepal Ungur—Departure of Kara Sai men—Fine snow range—Going east again—Reconnoiters useless—Bad health—No feasible route—Yepal Ungur once more—Fording Kiria River—Ruin at Baba Hatun—Sources of Kiria River—Numerous glaciers—Journey to Yeshil Kul—Return to “Fever Camp”—Connecting with 1896 work.

BY July 9th the promised transport had been provided, and next morning we set out from Kara Sai. The caravan consisted of 15 ponies (10 for baggage and 5 for riding), and 10 donkeys, besides 7 hired ponies and 11 hired donkeys. In addition we had 8 donkeys to carry food and other stores for the men who accompanied me from Kara Sai. For the sake of fresh meat I had obtained and sent on a day's march in front, twenty sheep and for milk two goats, but the milk these animals yielded was not worth the trouble they cost. I took with me a two months' supply of grain, flour, rice, ghee, salt, tea, sugar and spices. My purpose was to examine and survey the country to the west of the spot where Roborovsky had nearly perished, and determine the heights of as many of the mountain summits as possible. It was most desirable to connect the triangulation and the topographic work