

cessful attempts was counteracted by the knowledge that my failure would mean the success of the opposition, and I resolved at all hazards to complete my task. The practical result of the obstruction was that the survey embraced a much wider area, and was carried out in a far more satisfactory manner than I had ever anticipated. In this view of the matter I have to acknowledge my obligations to those who unintentionally constrained me to extend the range of my observations, and to take up positions whence I could check and review my work.

On February 2nd, after a three months' tramp of more than one thousand miles, I was once more at Yarkand, and in occupation of my old quarters.