

three days' storm, but that if it abated sooner the weather would be calm for four days. He had noticed that this was the usual occurrence. He called the wind *tifun*; singular that this Chinese word should have found its way hither! He used the following names for the cardinal points: south=*ser-i-pain*, or the lower quarter; north=*ser-i-bala*, or the upper quarter; west=*keble*, or Mecca; and east=*taraf-i-Imam Riza*—that is, the direction of Imam Riza, for the tomb of this prophet is in Meshed, which lies to the east. For east and west he had also the terms *aftab-seden* and *aftab-ghurub*, or sunrise and sunset.

The bed of the Jaje-rud stretches as far as this place; most of the water comes down the *rud-khaneh*, or bed of the river, and then is distributed through canals. Snow was confidently expected within twenty-five days, and it is said to lie sometimes two feet deep. After rain the ground becomes *gel* or muddy, and camel traffic is almost impossible, whereas snow is no hindrance.