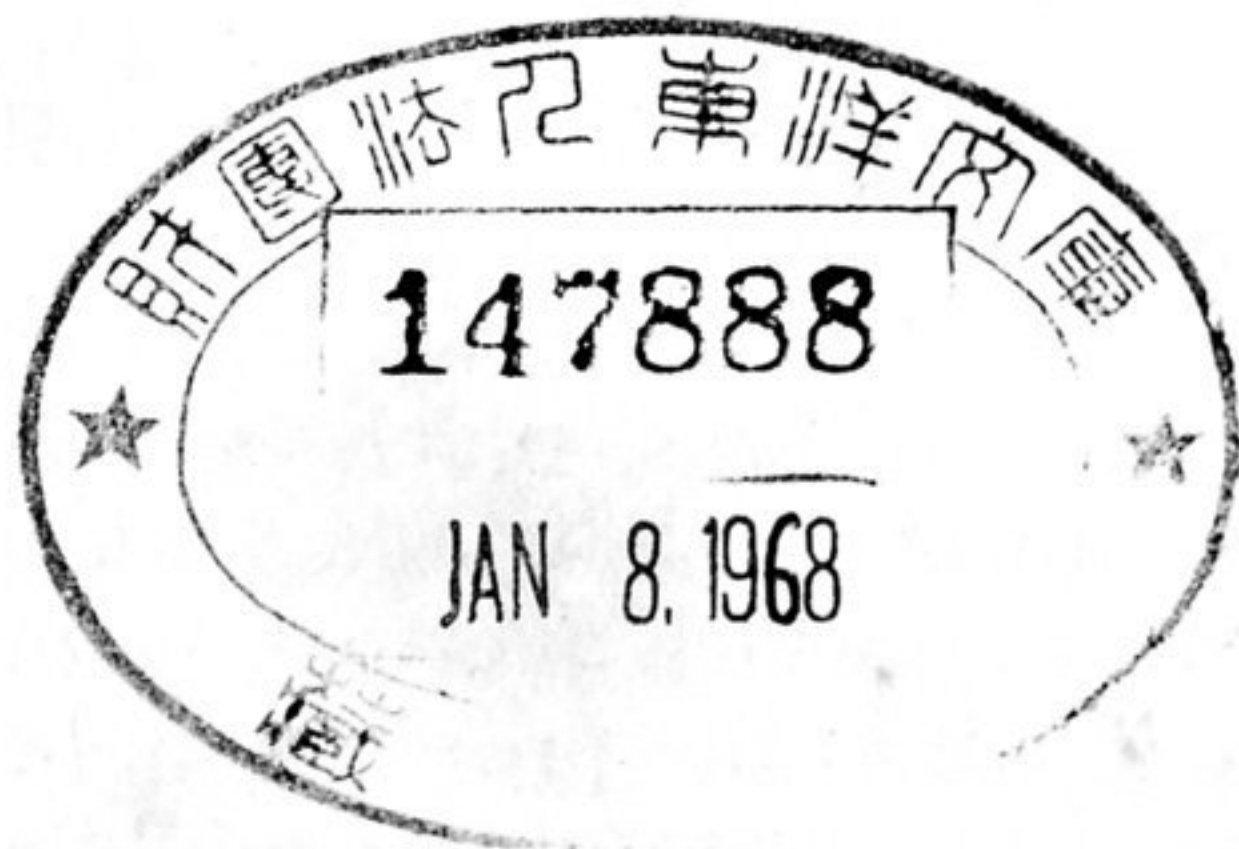


rain had really been less heavy here in the east than at Teshtab, and Gulam Hussein, who turned up in due time at night, was able to corroborate this view. He reported that it rained furiously at Khur; and perhaps the rain over the Kevir bay had been so trifling that we might try the direct way.

Gulam Hussein also informed us that next day a caravan of forty camels, laden with date pulp, was to go from Khur through Darin and Halvan to Turshiz, from which it would fetch wheat, barley, sugar, and raisins; it would follow the southern margin of the Kevir and have fifteen days' journey to Turshiz.

Hauz-i-patil is a dismal place, but we had abundance of water and firewood. The boundless Kevir dominated the landscape, and far in the east were seen the hills at Darin and Halvan, which now ran together into a light blue outline, hard to distinguish from the everlasting clouds which seemed unable to decide on leaving the sky.

END OF VOL. I.



Printed by R. & R. CLARK, LIMITED, Edinburgh.