

well with antiseptic cotton-wool and a gauze bandage. He had so much pain that he lay moaning in the night, but after two days the wound was healed. Vicious camels may be very dangerous. I had from the first been on the most confidential terms with my riding camel; he would come up to my tent, put his head through the opening to get a piece of bread, and nosed quite familiarly about my pockets. I took his shaggy head into my lap and stroked his nose and eyes, and he never showed the least dislike to me. Our friendship became stronger every day that passed, and I dreaded the day when we should at last part far in the east.

On February 25 it was the turn of Jaffaru to be left in our wake, and the wagtails and larks sat on the small mean graves rejoicing in the brilliant morning. Not a cloud was in the sky, but the air was cool, 36.5° at seven o'clock, and when the road turned after a while to the north-east, we were thoroughly chilled on the left side in the shade and towards the wind, but warmed up comfortably on the right in the lee and in the sunshine. Behind us stood a finely arched saddle, truncated at the top, named Kuh-i-Jaffaru, and the range between Jaffaru and Halvan became more distinct; it is formed of a huge fold, of which, here the north-western and there the south-eastern half remains, and the strata dip in both these directions. The ground is hard and excellent for walking, scantily begrown with shrubs and intersected with furrows 3 feet deep and running northwards.

After travelling 1 farsakh we cross the great royal road from Shiraz, Yezd, and Rabat-i-khan to Meshed. It is clearly marked, and consists of several parallel tracks, and at the point of junction two cairns are erected. To the north-east and north-north-east still stands Kuh-i-Halvan, which appeared light blue from Khur, but is now pink and light red. The landscape is dreary and monotonous, and nothing else can be expected when the same low summits and crests are seen for hours together. Before us rises a reddish level-topped ridge with snow; the ground falls north-north-westwards, and in the same direction a transverse valley is visible in the Jaffaru-Halvan range, whither all the furrows converge to pass out into the sandy desert Rig-i-Halvan; at Halvan itself stands a hill like a red dome.