

in Carmania (Kerman), but nothing of the numbers of men and animals lost.

As little can a comparison between the accounts of Strabo and Sykes allow us to arrive at any conclusions regarding climate. Strabo states himself (Book xv. chap. i.) that many of the Greeks visited India, but that most of their reports were derived from hearsay. "All contradict one another. As they now vary so much in their accounts of what they saw, what are we to think of what they heard?"

It is very different with the incidents which actually occurred, and which are in themselves quite sufficient to portray the nature of the country they had to contend with; and the more so when two authors, whose sources of information now lost, original documents composed during the campaign, relate the same events, as is the case with Strabo and Arrian.

In his sixth book Arrian relates how Alexander set out on a difficult road through Gedrosia, a road where the army suffered from want of everything, especially water. Therefore a large part of the journey had to be accomplished at night, as was natural, since it was the warm season and the departure from the mouth of the Indus took place in the end of August (325 B.C.). The whole force amounted, according to Droysen, to 40,000 men.

They followed the coast at some distance, but so near that it could always be perceived; Alexander wished to look out for harbours and supply the fleet under the command of Nearchus with provisions and water. "But the country of the Gedrosians was everywhere desert towards the sea. Therefore he sent Thoas, the son of Mandrodorus, with some horsemen down to the sea to look if, perchance, there were a landing-place, and whether water and other necessaries could be obtained near the sea. He returned with the information that he had found some fishermen in close, stuffy huts on the shore. . . . These fishermen had only a little water for their own use, which they dugged up laboriously out of the sand on the shore, and even this water was not quite sweet. . . . The natives were commissioned to fetch as much ground corn as possible from