

the ink was freezing in my fountain pen, to carry to distant friends the news of my safe arrival, that feeling was duly reflected.

Sincere was my gratitude, too, to Hedin for his excellent mapping which, in spite of a difference of routes and the total absence of guiding features, had allowed me to strike these forlorn ruins without a day's loss, and exactly where his route map had led me to look for them. Since the results of our own plane-table surveys, checked by triangulation as far as the mountains south-west of Charklik and by ample astronomical observations, have been fully computed and plotted, I have convinced myself with no small satisfaction that Hedin's position for this site differs from ours only by about one and a half miles in longitude and less than half a mile in latitude, a variance truly trifling on such ground.