



Aquarell by Adolphe Schlagintweit, October 1856, Or. No. 463.

Lithographed by Sabatier, printed in Oil-colours by Lemercier, Paris.

I. Northern Aspect: The Gardens of Shalimar and the neighbouring Mountains.



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II. Southern Aspect: The Fort of Srinagar with the Chain of the Pir Panjal.

Panorama of the Lake and the Gardens near Srinagar, Kashmir.

Srinagar: Lat. North $34^{\circ} 46'$ Long. East of Green. $74^{\circ} 18' 5''$

Height: 5,116 Engl. feet.

The shores of the lake in the immediate vicinity of the capital of Kashmir have materially contributed to spread the fame of the beauty of this country, not indeed by the forms of grand Alpine scenery, but by the character of unrivalled loveliness. In the northern aspect of the Panorama we see two valleys, and a ridge along the shores of the lake connected by a succession of gardens dating from the seventeenth century, from the time of Shah Jehangir. The southern aspect of the Panorama presents the fort of Srinagar, erected on the mountain Takht-i-Sulaiman, and the approaches to the capital. The distant ridge in the horizon is the profile of the Pir Panjal, mountain-chains of an average height of 15,000 feet. The lake is shallow throughout, and a level green carpet of weeds waving uninterruptedly beneath the surface displays an unexpected contrast to the general aspect of this sheet of water, which is of a brilliant blue colour and of surprising purity. The numerous 'rahs,' or floating gardens, also deserve especial mention. Less poetical objects than might be expected, they consist simply of rafts covered with earth and fixed to the ground by poles, their use being exclusively limited to horticultural purposes. - The proportions of the Atlas did not allow of our giving the Panorama with its parts joined together; it will be easy, however, to observe, that a part of the dark hills breaking off at the respective margins is given in both sheets, and in reality occupies the centre of the Panorama.