



TRAVELS IN KASHMIR, LADAK, ISKARDO,

THE COUNTRIES ADJOINING THE

MOUNTAIN-COURSE OF THE INDUS,

AND

THE HIMALAYA, NORTH OF THE PANJAB.

WITH MAP

ENGRAVED BY DIRECTION OF THE HON. EAST INDIA COMPANY,

AND OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS.

By G. T. VIGNE, Esq. F.G.S.

AUTHOR OF A PERSONAL NARRATIVE OF A VISIT TO GHUZNI, KABUL, AND
AFGHANISTAN.

"I look out with great anxiety for your map and book relating to Cashmere and Gilghit, &c., by far the most interesting portion of your wanderings, and which will fill up a great blank."—*Extract of a Letter from Sir A. Burnes to the Author, dated Cabul, Sept. 16, 1841.*

"Cashmere still maintains its celebrity as the most delicious spot in Asia, or in the world."—ELPHINSTONE'S *India*, vol. ii. p. 286.

"Eoam tentare fidem, populosque bibentes
Enphratem; * * *
Medorum penetrare domos, * * *
Arva super Cyri, Chaldæique ultima regni,
Qua rapidus Ganges et qua Nyssæus Hydaspes
Accedunt pelago."—LUCAN, *Civ. Bell.* Lib. viii. l. 213, &c.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

LONDON:
HENRY COLBURN, PUBLISHER,
GREAT MARLBOROUGH STREET.

1842.

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY

Ind 3648.42

LONDON:

PRINTED BY MOYES AND BARCLAY, CASTLE STREET,
LEICESTER SQUARE.



CONTENTS

OF THE SECOND VOLUME.

CHAPTER I.

	PAGE
The Indian Ceres—Ancient Excavations—Singular Cave—Hindu Ruins—The Bear's Spring—Copper-Mine—Hindu Shrine—Legend of the Shrine—Singular Rock—A candid Pundit—Shepherd's Village—Cave of Umur Nath—Religious Ceremonies—Native Account of the Cave of Umur Nath—The Angel of Death and Siva—The Blue Water—Attempt to reach Umur Nath—The Golden Lake—Encamping-place of the Pilgrims—Auguries from the Flight of Birds—Superstition and Priestcraft—Marriage Customs—A Hindu Widow—The Emblem of the Dove—Its sacred Character in various Countries—Origin of the Emblem—Game in Kashmir—The Stag of Kashmir—Numerous Bears—Wild Animals—The Otter—No Hares in Kashmir—The Royal Partridge—Waterfowl—Bitterns—Eagles—Falcons—Boa Constrictor—Poisonous Snake—The River Lidur—Bij Beara—Bridges of Kashmir—Great Temple—Ancient Capital of Kashmir—Wentipur—Forster—Changes in the Valley	3

CHAPTER II.

Trahul—Residence of the Sikhs—Southern Slopes of the Himalaya—Effects of Aspect on Vegetation—Pampur—Hindu	
VOL. II. b	

	PAGE
Temple—Plains and Saffron-grounds of Pampur—Cultivation of Saffron—Alexander in Kashmir—Warm Spring in the Mountains—Iron-Mine—Hindu Ruins—Enormous Pillar—Singular Relics—Mystery of their Origin—Remarkable Building—Tricks upon Travellers—General Features of the Valley—Remarkable Hill—Islamabad—Exquisite Temple—Ruined Serai—The Ramu River—The Chanz River—Survey of the Valley—Throne of Solomon—Indian Notions of Solomon—Origin of the Name of Kashmir—Fire Worship—Divisions of the Valley—The Emperor Baber—Tamerlane in Kashmir—Timur—Various Invaders of the Valley—Religion of Kashmir—Traditions—Early Fame of Kashmir—Different Sects—Characters of the Hindu and the Kashmirian	29

CHAPTER III.

Tukt-i-Suliman—Singular Building on its Summit—Panoramic View of the Valley—Fort of Kashmir—Exquisite Scenery—Aspect of the City—Moore's Description of the Valley—Beautiful Lake—The far-famed Shalimar—Floating Gardens—Scenery of the Valley—Course of the Jylum—The Great Lake—Kashmir not India—Tiger-hunting and Muli-gatani—The British Flag in Kashmir—Its consequences—The Apple-tree Canal—Ruined Floodgate—The Amir's Bridge—Fort and octagonal Tower—Visiting Etiquette—Importance of Display—Runjit Singh—A jolly Rajah—Horrible Cruelty—A Wife baked alive by her Husband—A Rajah murdered—Huri Singh—Kupar Ram—Treachery of Runjit—A deposed Rajah—The Great Earthquake—The King of the Panjab—Hindu Ruins—Destruction of Public Buildings by Fanaticism—Tomb of Budshah—Lallah Rookh—Jehan Gir—First Mosque erected in Kashmir—The Great Mosque—Kashmirian Legend—Beautiful Tomb—Singular Sacrifice of a Boy—The Huri Purbut—The City of the Lake—The Fruits of Kashmir—Climate of Kashmir—Curious Canal—Public Buildings—Floating Gardens—The Prophet's Hair—The sacred Mule—The five immortal Animals—The Feast of Roses—Other Feasts of the Hindus in Kashmir—Noble Grove—Growth of the Chunar—Enormous one in Persia	59
--	----

CHAPTER IV.

	PAGE
The City Lake—The River of Oil—Glacier—The Shalimar— Splendid Ruins—The Sikh Governor—Oriental Ideas of Drinking—A Visit—Trial of Skill—The Isle of Chunar— A pleasant Encounter—Baron Hugel—Dr. Henderson—His Dangers and Adventures—Runjit Singh—M. Avetabile—The Agra Bank—Commemorative Inscription—First Travellers in Kashmir—Kashmirian Boatmen—Village of Bryn—Hos- pitality—Tea in Kashmir—Panorama—The Shah Sahib— Jealousy of Runjit—The Golden Island—The Lotus—The Water-nut—Atmospheric Phenomenon—Fly-fishing in Kash- mir—Fish of the Country—Extraordinary Fish—Revenue and Commerce of Kashmir—Manufactures—Medicine—Ma- nufacture of Shawls—The Wool—Proofs of Shawl-making— Dyeing—Peculiarity of the Water of Kashmir—Shawl Brokers and Shawl Merchants	99

CHAPTER V.

City of the Sun—Peasants of Kashmir—Epistolary etiquette— Tribes and Clans—Musalmans and Hindus—Akber in Kash- mir—Women of the Valley—Their Beauty—Gipsies—Danc- ing Girls—Tour of the Valley—The Place of Marriage— Confluence of the Jylum with the Sind—The Duras Pass— Simbul—Beautiful Lake—An awkward Encounter with Bears —Ruins of Hindu Temple—The Sacred Lake—Shepherd's Tent and Family—Curious Dog brought to England by the Author—The Holy Lake—No Satis in Kashmir—Funeral Ceremonies—The Great Lake—Island in it—Origin of the Lake—Waterfowl and Plants—Fish of the Lake—Course of the Jylum—Sikh Fort—Panoramic View—The Sacred Peaks —Ancient Kings of Kashmir—Vast Ruins—Man hanging— Bears—Curious Fact—Beauty of the Scenery—The Burying- ground—Baramula—Idol-house—Votive Offering—Course of the Jylum—The Rishis—The Mountain of Flowers—Hindu Remains—Waters of Immortality—The Deodar—Noxious Exhalations—Wild Animals—Primeval Scenery—Sacred Fountain—Ancient Tomb—Tour of the Valley concluded . . .	187
---	-----

CHAPTER VI.

PAGE

Return to Baramula—Course of the Jylum—Gradual Draining of the Lakes in Kashmir—Forest of Deodars—Loghouses and Hindu Ruin—Massive flight of Steps—Enormous Stones—Sarcophagus—Singular Building—Ruins of a Serai—Mountain Scenery—Wild Olives—Path of the Emperor Akber—Serpent-eater—Kathai—The Baramula Pass—History of its first Capture by the Sikhs—Mazufurabad—Sources of the Kishengunga River—Dherabund—Village and Sikh Fort—Musalman Monument—Baron Hugel—An angry Sikh—Complaints to Head-quarters—Nushera—The Dor River—Falcons—The Sugar-cane and Plantain—Messenger from Runjit Singh—Torbela on the Indus—The Tribe of Joseph—The celebrated Wah Gardens—Jehan Gir—Summer-house and Bath—The Plain of Attok—Vegetation of the Plain—Mr. Elphinstone and Lieutenant Burnes—Aspect of the Country—The Salt Range—Rare Bird—Navigation of the Jylum—The Ghuka Chief—His Capital	175
--	-----

CHAPTER VII.

Captain Wade—Iskardo, the Capital of Little Tibet—The Author the first European who visits it—Attempt at Intimidation—Jews of Ladák, Eaters of Human Flesh—Ahmed Shah—Departure for Little Tibet—Bundurpúr—Feeders of the Great Lake—Messenger from Ahmed Shah—Doubts and Fears—Traveller's Tales of Wonder—A travelling Merchant—Mountain Pass—Table-land of Deotsuh—The Peak of Diarmul—Splendid Mountain View—The Sacred Waters—The River of Krishna—The Valley of Gurys—Governors of the Valley—Entry into Little Tibet—Valley of Tytil—Bears—Courage of an English Terrier—Halting-place—The River of Krishna—Poisonous Fish—Poisonous Snake—Wild Region—Mountain Defiles—Kababs—Classical Meal—Geology and Vegetation—Villages of Little Tibet—Sher Singh—Diplomacy—Cunning of Ahmed Shah—The Son of Ahmed Shah—Mahometan Prejudices—Wild Gooseberry—First Introduction to Ahmed Shah—Tibetan Military Music—Singular Scene—Cortege of the Shah—Tibetan Costume—A Band of

	PAGE
Robbers—Attack and Destruction of them—Departure for Iskardo—Origin of the Guelphs—Ahmed Shah's Respect for England—Tibetian Sandals—Rock and Stronghold . . .	195

CHAPTER VIII.

Descent from the Mountain—Singular Defile and Pass—The Rajah of Rondu—A Traitor—Intercession and Mercy—A Scramble—The Indus—The Gylfo's Castle—Splendid View—Ascent of the Killah—Origin of Tibet—Isolated Peaks—Division of the Country—Residence of the Grand Lama—Descendant of Alexander the Great—Iskardo—Origin of Buddhism—The Royal Race of Gylfos—Their History—Inauguration of the Sovereign—A Runaway Heir-apparent—Gulab Singh—Mahomed Ali Khan—Achmet Ali Khan—Dr. Falconer—Singular Treatment of the Smallpox—The Army of Little Tibet—Provision for the Soldiers killed in Action—Caste in Little Tibet—Ceremony of Marriage—Valley of the Indus—Soil of the Valley—Effects of Irrigation—Singular Block of Granite—Lakes in Iskardo—Magnificent Spring—Cultivation of the Land—Landholders—Sepahis—Crops and Fruits of the Valley—Raisins—Singular Preparation of Wheat Tea in Tibet—Climate and Language of the Valley—The Valley of Shighur—The Rajah's House and Fort—Ahmed Shah—March through the Valley—Wild and magnificent Scenery—Irrigation—Inhabitants of Little Tibet—Reception of the Rajah on his Progress—Fruits and Grain of the Valley—Singular Raft—Passage of the Indus—An odd Scene—Hot Spring	243
---	-----

CHAPTER IX.

The Yak, or Grunting Ox of Tibet—The Kuch-Kar—Known to Alexander the Great—Mr. Blythe—The Ibex—The Markhur, or Serpent-eater—Gigantic Goat—The Shá, or Goat-Deer—The Musk-Deer—Leopards, Bears, and Wolves of Tibet—The Fox and Hare—The royal Partridge, and other Game—Oriole—Fishing in the Indus—Himalaya Trout—Snake—Freedom of the Valley from Reptiles—A Traveller's Stories—Former Road to Yarkund—Singular Rock—Hot Spring—
--

	PAGE
Magnificent Glacier—Gold-dust Stream—Washing for Gold-dust—Marmots—Account of Herodotus—Ants as big as Foxes—Defile and Glacier—Projected Journey over the Muztak—Nagyr—Gold-washing—Gilghit—Banks of the Indus towards Ladakh—Shighur—Singular Equestrian Game—Hockey on Horseback—Horses of Little Tibet—Rocky Defile—Mountain Pass and Glacier—Achmet Ali Khan—The Dead alive—A Dose of Calomel—Mountain Ascent—Five Glaciers—Glorious View—A Philosophic Tailor—Village, with an Iron-Mine—Husára—The Rajah—Hospitable Reception—Conclave at the Rajah's—The Dangri Language—Singular Ideas of the Natives regarding Englishmen—The Sunis—Course of the Husára River—Vegetation of the Banks—Wild Animals—Two Hot Springs—Portal of the Indus—Its Course through the Panjab—The Valley of Gilghit—Religious Ceremonies—The Rajah of Gilghit—His Refusal to let the Author enter his Country—Return to Kashmir—Gilghit—Wine-making—Habits of the People—Lieutenant Wood—Antiquities in Yessen—Relics of Alexander the Great—Rajah of Astor—The Chitral Valley—Kafiristan—Death of Dr. Henderson .	277

CHAPTER X.

Ascent of the Indus—Confluence of its two great Branches—Male and Female River—The Nubra branch of the Indus—Stupendous Mountains—Mountain Villages—Singular Path—Scenery of the Alpine Indus—The Place of the Rock—Native Physician—A native Medical Treatise—Diseases of Tibet—Asthma—Game—Castle of Chorbut—Native Sword-dance—Defile of Hanu—The Sikhs surprised—Ascent of the Hanu Pass—Magnificent View—Descent of the Mountain—The Bhuts Villages—Costume of the Bhuts—Incense-dishes—Mode of Salaaming—The Hanu Stream—A Consultation—A Salvator Rosa Scene—The Rajah of Parkuta—Swing Bridges—Passing the River—The Rajah's Cook drowned—Performance of a Conjuror—Fortress of Ahmed Shah—Narcotic Plant—Chinese Territory in Little Tibet—Singular Buddhist Buildings—First Village of Great Tibet—The Lamas, or Priests of Great Tibet—A Visit from them—Bed of
--

the Indus at Kulutzi—Dr. Henderson—Hatred of the Tibetians for the Sikhs—Bridge burned to impede the Author's Progress—Swearing on the Koran—Gulab Singh and Runjit—Gulab Singh and the English—The Author's Progress stopped by Gulab Singh—The Sikhs and the Ladakhis—Village of Kemis—Solitary Dwelling of a Lama—Character of the Ladakh Country—Pituk—Costume of the Lamas and Gelums—Enormous Mountains—Banks of the Indus—Leh—Residence of the Rajah—Buddhist Monuments—Residence of Mr. Moorcroft—Babylonian Building—Mountain Plains—Commerce of Ladakh—Exports from Kashmir to the Panjab	315
---	-----

CHAPTER XI.

Arrival at Ladakh—Obstacles and Difficulties—Ill-treatment of the Author—Seeking Redress—The Lamaic Religion—Dr. Wiseman on Buddhism—Rajahs and ex-Rajah of Ladakh—Jealousy of the Sikhs—The Grand Lama—An Adventure with the ex-Rajah—How to Astonish the Natives—Juan Singh—Presents and Civilities—Visit to Nubra—Mountain Pass—The Muztak—Descent of the Mountain—Shy-Yok—Road to Yarkund—Castle and Village—Game—Character of the Valley of the Nubra—Kurukurum Mountains—Etymology—The Nubra Tsuh—Fall of a Glacier—Fearful Inundation—Meeting of Five Streams—Fatal Snow-falls—Yarkund City—Timur's Capital—Habits and Manners of the Yarkundis—A Wife for a Season—The Yarkundi's love of Tea—The Plains of Yarkund—Road to Pekin—Celebrated Tulip-ground—Singular Idol—Return to Little Tibet—Reception by Ahmed Shah—A handsome Offer of Gulab Singh—Interview with Runjit Singh—Complaints against Gulab Singh—Intrigues and Jealousies—The double Deceit—Runjit and Gulab Singh—Capture of Iskardo by Gulab Singh—Influence of British Travellers—Captain Wade, Political Agent at Lodiana	349
--	-----

CHAPTER XII.

Intended Visit to Kokan—Delays and Difficulties—The Rajah of Hunzeh—Dr. Falconer—Astonishing the Natives—A Russian Spy—More Difficulties thrown in the Author's Way—	
--	--

	PAGE
A fresh Start—Mountain Pass—Singularly wild Spot—Poisonous Plant—A Night Storm on the Mountain—Ascent of a Glacier—Shooting the Ibex—A Night on the Glacier—Converting a Hindu—A Snow-fall on the Glacier—Disappointment—A Lucky Escape—A marvellous Rock—Hot Spring—Letter to Runjit Singh—Dr. Falconer—The Duras Pass—Ahmed Shah—A grand Hunt—Leave-taking—Ascent of the Ladakh River—A Comet—The Wolf's Leap—Return to the Sikh Territory—Designs of Gulab Singh—Sikh Castle—Singular Pillars—Duras—Crossing Glaciers—The Hill of Siva—The Jesuit Missionary Desideri—The Sind River—The Golden Hill—Sikh Custom-house—Gund-i-Sur-Singh—Improved Scenery—The Valley of the Sind—Splendid View—A Kashmirian Tailor	379

CHAPTER XIII.

Arrival at Lodiana—Sir Henry Fane—Navigating the Sutliji—Scenery—Alligators—The Persian Water-wheel—The late Sir William M'Naghten and Shah Shuja—The Indus—The Author's Pilgrimages on the Indus—Its sacred Character—Palm-groves—The Bolan Pass—Lieutenant Wood—Arabic Inscription—Sir Willoughby Cotton—Sir Alexander Burnes—The Tamarind-fish—Hydrabad—Facilities for Navigating the Indus—The Lohanis—Native Preserves—The Amirs of Sind—The Sind Hound—Singular Death of three British Officers—A burning Jungul—British Detachment—An agreeable Evening—Vegetation of the Country—"Lions" and Alligators—Karachi—Bad Accommodation—Arrival at Bombay—Promontory of Aden—The Isthmus of Suez—Cairo—Visit to the Pyramids—A Magician—Tricks upon Travellers—Interview with the Pacha—Mehemet Ali and Runjit—Their Characters and Actions compared and contrasted—The Battle of Nezib—Return to Europe—Greece—The Piræus—Trieste Steam-boat—The Greek Islands—Venice—Munich—Lord Erskine—Lake of Staremburg—Celebrity of Strauss—Rotterdam—London—Conclusion	403
APPENDIX No. I.—Kashmirian Measures	429
APPENDIX No. II.—Vocabulary	430
OBSERVATIONS	440
APPENDIX No. III.	463

VOCABULARY OF THE LANGUAGE OF BULTISTAN,

SURI BUTAN, OR LITTLE TIBET.

Milk, <i>ana</i> .	Bring my horse, <i>shtah kiung</i> .
Bread, <i>khurba</i> (<i>ghurba</i> in Abys- sinian).	House, <i>mulsa</i> .
Fire, <i>myh</i> .	Way, <i>lum</i> .
Air, <i>hish</i> .	High road, <i>rgyl lum</i> .
Water, <i>tchuch</i> .	Go, <i>songh</i> .
Earth, <i>sah</i> .	Come, <i>ongh</i> .
Heaven, <i>snum</i> .	Which is the way? <i>lum gar yut?</i>
Sugar, <i>karha</i> .	Sit down, <i>dukh</i> .
Meat, <i>shahur</i> .	Mankind, <i>mihi</i> .
Grapes, <i>urgun</i> .	A man, <i>bussa</i> .
Apricots, <i>chuli</i> or <i>suri</i> .	Woman, <i>bustring</i> .
The kernel, <i>yakpah</i> .	Boy, <i>pruh</i> .
River or lake, <i>tsuh</i> ; Dan. <i>so</i> ; Germ. <i>see</i> ; Isl. <i>sjór</i> (<i>sjó</i>).	Girl, <i>bunuh</i> .
The Indus, <i>Gym-Tsuh</i> , the col- lected or great river.	Horse, <i>shtah</i> .
Hill, <i>brok</i> ; Isl. <i>brekka</i> .	Mare, <i>rgonmah</i> .
Mountain, <i>rhi</i> .	Grunting ox, <i>hyak</i> .
Plain, <i>thung</i> .	Cow of same, <i>potor</i> .
Sand, <i>biangh</i> .	Dog, <i>khipo</i> .
Castle, <i>khur</i> .	Snow, <i>kah</i> .
Land paying rent, <i>yul</i> .	Ice, <i>gung</i> or <i>yek</i> ; Isl. <i>jaks</i> (<i>yaks</i>).
Land paying no rent, <i>gund</i> .	Tree, <i>starsji</i> .
Good, <i>Llakmoh</i> (pronounced as <i>ll</i> in Welsh).	Shrub, <i>laksuk</i> .
Bad, <i>sheshik</i> .	Red, <i>marfo</i> .
Enough, <i>tsud</i> .	Yellow, <i>serfo</i> .
More, <i>yug</i> .	Green, <i>hunpo</i> .
Ask, <i>tris</i> .	Above, <i>yer</i> .
Give, <i>min</i> .	Beneath, <i>туру</i> .
	Strong, <i>kurher</i> .
	Weak, <i>thear</i> .
	Old, <i>Appo</i> .
	Young, <i>jewan</i> .

Ear, <i>snar</i> .	Title of Rajah of Little Tibet, is
Hair allowed to grow, behind the ear, <i>snarsko</i> .	' <i>Rgyl-fo</i> .
Fish, <i>niah</i> .	Title of his Queen, ' <i>Rgyl-mo</i> .
A tent, ' <i>rhba</i> .	A gin or devi, <i>dryh</i> ; Isl. <i>drangr</i> ;
Tent-pole, ' <i>rbaka</i> .	Norweg. <i>drum</i> (<i>esse spectrum</i>).
Rope, ' <i>rbathuk</i> ; Isl. <i>reyp</i> .	Female, <i>deidryh-mo</i> .
Goitre, <i>gryhr</i> .	Fairies, <i>hla</i> and <i>hla-mo</i> ; Isl. <i>alfas</i> .
Man's frock, <i>gonma</i> .	(<i>Elf</i> Angl.)
Cap, <i>nuting</i> .	Yech or satyr, <i>yulufu</i> ; Isl. <i>jola-sveina</i> ; Swed. <i>jul-folk</i> .
Shawl, <i>kar</i> .	Yesterday, <i>gundi</i> .
Teapot, <i>kharial</i> .	Day after to-morrow, <i>snim</i> .
To-day, <i>dring</i> .	Day before yesterday, <i>zes</i> .
To-morrow, <i>huski</i> .	Pashm or Shawlwool, <i>ribul</i> .
Rajah, <i>cho</i> .	Goat, <i>ruskis</i> and <i>rah</i> .
Queen of Little Tibet, <i>chokro</i> .	Ibex, <i>skyn</i> .
Prince, <i>chopru</i> .	

BULTI NUMERALS.

1. <i>chich</i> .	16. <i>churuk</i> .
2. <i>nus</i> .	17. <i>chubdun</i> .
3. <i>sum</i> .	18. <i>chabget</i> .
4. <i>auji</i> .	19. <i>churghu</i> .
5. <i>rah</i> .	20. <i>nishu</i> .
6. <i>truk</i> .	30. <i>sunchu</i> .
7. <i>dun</i> .	40. <i>yib chu</i> .
8. <i>gyht</i> .	50. <i>kalchu</i> .
9. <i>oghu</i> .	60. <i>nishu drum</i> .
10. <i>chu</i> .	70. <i>dunchu</i> .
11. <i>chuschich</i> .	80. <i>esubji</i> .
12. <i>chong nus</i> .	90. <i>oghubehu</i> .
13. <i>chuksum</i> .	100. <i>bgyah</i> .
14. <i>chubji</i> .	1000. <i>stong</i> .
15. <i>chorah</i> .	