

ever been there. However, he had a tolerably correct idea of its position, and offered to conduct us to it.

On the 21st we recommenced ascending the western branch of this mighty glacier, and slept on its most elevated moraine. On the 22nd, the weather being clear, we continued our route, and, after some digressions, and a few mistakes, reached the pass at two o'clock. It was loftier and of more difficult access than we had supposed. It is certainly one of the highest passes in the Himalaya; its altitude cannot be less than 20,300 feet above the sea-level. We were fortunate, however, in finding any sort of pass, for otherwise we should have been forced to make a long and wearisome détour, by descending to the very foot of the glacier, and skirting the Mana-Ghat.

From the loftiest point of this col we discovered a vast glacier extending to the south-west, and before us stretched a range of mountains. The glacier was that of Soursoutti. We descended its incline, and passed the night again upon a moraine, in a place where we found a few dry herbs. To feed a fire for preparing the dinner we very sorely wanted, we were compelled to break up our staffs, and the poles of our tent. On the 23rd we arrived at Soursoutti, at the foot of the glacier, in the valley leading to Mana. We were now able to understand why the natives had abandoned the pass; it is a hundred times worse than that of the Pindari; and, moreover, it is remote from every habitation, and bare of all resources.

Next day, happily, we fell in with some persons travelling to Tibet, who gave us some of their rice. On the evening of the 24th we reached Badrinath, where our arrival had been anxiously expected.

Such is the narrative of the two Bavarian travellers. A year after this memorable ascent, one of the brothers, Adolphe Schlagintweit, traversing anew these same regions, was recognized as an European, and fell by the daggers of some murderous natives. The Tibetan Government, in 1862, struck a medal in honour of Hermann Schlagintweit. It represents the traveller in his costume as a Himalayan explorer. One word only is engraved on the medal, but it is full of meaning:—

SAKUENLUENSKI:—"He who passed the Kuen-luen."

If we remember that the elevation of Mont Blanc is 15,756 feet, we shall see, from the narrative of the preceding ascent, in which the brothers Schlagintweit attained on Ibi-Gamin the height of 22,200 feet, that the barometers had been carried 6500 feet higher than on Mont Blanc. The elevation of the mountain-chains of Asia is, moreover, very superior to that of the European mountains, and we may