

panorama presented to our view was of no great extent ; clouds incessantly enfolded us ; though an occasional glimpse of light revealed to us the glacier-chains which surround the Ibi-Gamin. The highest point to which we attained was upwards of 22,200 feet ; we had ascertained, by calculation, that the total elevation of the mountain was about 22,250 feet.

Towards two o'clock a strong wind began to blow from the north, and we began to think of retracing our steps. It increased in violence as we descended, and we were well pleased at arriving safe and sound at our camp in the evening. The peak of Ibi-Gamin again showed itself several times in the midst of clouds, coloured by the fires of the glowing sunset, and the reader will believe with how lively a satisfaction we surveyed our route, which the eye could clearly trace up to the highest point.

We had grown accustomed to sojourning at great elevations, especially during our travel in Tibet ; but this time no one had wholly escaped suffering. We experienced severe pains in the head, and the agony in our eyes was terrible, owing greatly to the wind, which blew around us a mist of fine particles of snow. The night was again unfavourable. We had no means of kindling a fire ; the wind threatened to blow down our tent ; the cold was intense. All our attendants, with one exception, had lost courage, and even the faculty of thinking. Towards nine in the morning the cold decreased, and we set out for our second encampment, which was better sheltered.

That day we lost one of our servants, Dolpa, a native of Milum, and a very worthy man, who had been attacked with hæmorrhage on the preceding evening. We had caused him to be accompanied by a man in the descent ; but the latter arrived shortly after us, declaring he had lost his companion in a whirlwind of snow. We sent at first two, afterwards three of our men, in search of him, but without success. Next day two men remained behind to continue the quest, but it was all in vain.

We had been three days at Mana, and had made an arrangement with the family of the poor fellow whom we supposed to be dead, when he returned to us as by a miracle. He had been lying between two great boulders of a moraine, where no one could see him ; the second day he had begun slowly to descend, but did not arrive at our encampment until the two men left behind had quitted it, and thus he had remained three whole days in those frozen solitudes without food. At length, he fell in with some natives of Mana, who cordially greeted him, and brought him back. His condition was pitiable ; his feet were frozen ; but he slowly recovered.

In the afternoon of the 20th we were gratified by a return of fine weather. We completed our topographical surveys. Some supplies of fuel and provisions despatched by Mani from the lower station, where he waited for us, helped to re-establish everybody's strength.

The great glacier of Ibi-Gamin lies within the borders of Tibet. To reach Badrinath, we had to traverse a *col* of the glacier. We had heard of this pass (which differs materially from the ordinary Mana Pass) from one of the coolies who accompanied us. He told us that men formerly crossed it with their herds, but that it was then entirely deserted, and that no one with whom he was acquainted had