

He uses the German words *Fälle, Hafen, Bai, Inseln, &c.*, and not the native equivalents, and does not use accents.

(4) The *Deutsch Ost-Afrika* Wall Map, $\frac{1}{1,000,000}$, by the Colonial Society, gives:—

Mtschandji,	which,	by new rules,	would be	Mtshandji.
Tschakwana,	„	„	„	Tshakwana.
Muasi,	„	„	„	Mwasi.

From the above comparison, it will, I think, be admitted that the new German rules approach very near to those adopted in this country and in the United States, and this must be a matter of satisfaction to all interested in geographical science and literature, and, above all, to cartographers; but we cannot at the same time help regretting that some of the exceptions to which I have alluded should have been found necessary.

The addition of examples of names spelt according to the German system would have greatly facilitated the explanation and meaning of their rules, but as authoritative lists of all names are about to appear, it was perhaps thought unnecessary to give examples.

It has been suggested by those members of the Orthography Committee of the Royal Geographical Society who have perused the above remarks, that as the German rules approach so closely to ours, and as the United States rules and ours are practically identical, it would be well to endeavour to come to an agreement between the three countries. If a small international committee of, say, one expert delegate from England, the United States, and Germany, respectively, were to meet and thrash out the few discrepancies, and come to a common decision, there would probably be no difficulty on the part of the scientific representatives of the three countries (and of the respective Governments) in adopting the conclusions thus arrived at.

Each country might perhaps have to make some slight concession, but if uniformity were secured such concessions would be amply justified. I entirely concur in this suggestion, and commend it to all who are interested in cartography.

Mr. Rockhill's Travels in North-East Tibet.

THE following extract of a letter addressed to Mr. E. Delmar Morgan from Mr. W. W. Rockhill, the well-known Tibetan traveller, who is now exploring north-eastern Tibet, will be found interesting. The letter is written from Oim (Baron Ts'aidam*), and is dated April 19th,

* Probably identical with Barun Zasak of the late General Prejevalsky in lat. 36° 10', long. 97° 30' E. approx. See map in 'Supplementary Papers,' Vol. III., Part I.

1892. Referring to Vol. III., Part I., of the 'Supplementary Papers,' R.G.S., Mr. Rockhill writes:—"In the postscript you say that a little doubt is thrown on the correctness of my information as to the names of the two lakes to the east of Karmat'ang.* I have within the last month inquired of a large number of Panaka and Ts'aidam Mongols, who have been to the lakes many times, what were their names. They have *all* answered, 'Jarang Norang' (the usual corrupt pronunciation of the Tibetan words *Rgya-ring* and *Snon-ring*), or 'Ts'aka-Tsaga.' Ts'aka does not necessarily imply that the lake is salty, but only that salt is found along its shores. This is the case with the Ts'aka in question, for the Golok get on its shores nearly all the salt they use.

"Another point is as to the name of the *Upper* Bayan gol, the principal river of the Ts'aidam. It is known in *Shang* as Yohuré gol (or Ch'uk'a when a Tibetan is speaking), and as Bayan gol west of Shang when it enters the plain. No other name is ever given it. (I write the name phonetically; it is a Mongol word, meaning, I am told, 'medicine'). On Prejevalsky's map the name figures as Yegrai, but if my ear serves me at all well, this does not approximate very closely the sound of the Mongol word.

"It may be of interest to you to know that after a very interesting visit to the Salar (Turki tribes, *soi-disant* from Samarkand) living on the Yellow River west of Hsün-hua-T'ing, and the Rongwa Tibetans of the Kuei-te district, I came to the Ts'aidam by a previously untrudged route south of the Kokonor by the Bayan (or Wayen) nor, Gunga nor, Huynyung, and Muri-Wahon (south-south-east of the Ts'aka or Tale'-dabesu nor, to the east of Dulan Kus). Thence I came over a range certainly not less than 16,000 feet high, into the basin of a river flowing into the Ts'aidam swamp, the Tsahan ossu † (its lower course is marked on my route map as Shara gol, its name in the plain). I followed down its course for some 40 miles, and then taking a direct route west (the river making a big bend north-west before entering the plain), reached the village of Shang on April 4th. After a few days I went again to the Tosu nor, ‡ the west end of which I make to be in lat. 35° 27' N. (observations subject to correction). This lake, which I believe I am the only foreigner to have visited, is certainly not less than 35 miles from east to west, and about 2 to 2½ miles in breadth. Its altitude is less than I had made it in '89. I make it now to be a little over 13,000 feet above sea-level—1000 feet lower than the Western lake (Alang nor).

* Prejevalsky's Gharmattyn, or Odon-tala (Sinicè, Sing-su-hai) = The Plain at the Sources of the Yellow River.

† Probably identical with the Tsasa gol of Prejevalsky (*cf.* map, 'Suppl. Papers,' *ibid.*

‡ This lake is marked indefinitely on the above map as Toso nor, in approximately the same latitude as that assigned to it by Mr. Rockhill from actual observation.

"I have about perfected arrangements with Mongols here to go as far as the Tengri nor, as I have found it impossible to get any of them to agree to go to Lh'asa, so determined are the Tibetans to keep us out as long as possible. The Mongols returning from Lh'asa tell me that at Nagch'uka, and at several other localities north of Lh'asa, they were searched and cross-questioned by officials and soldiers from Lh'asa as to whether they had any foreign goods with them, that they were told that not only foreigners, but everything from their land, was now excluded from Tibet.

"I am unable at present to say where I will get to, but hope to be able to do useful geographical work. I have surveyed all my route from Chang-Chia-Kou* (Kalgan) here with prismatic compass, taking astronomical observations for latitude and longitude every two or three days, which, though I do not believe they will prove absolutely accurate, will serve to fix temporarily a considerable number of points on the map.—I am, &c., W. W. ROCKHILL."

Notes on M. Dauvergne's Travels in Chinese Turkestan.

By GENERAL J. T. WALKER, C.B., F.R.S.

Map, p. 816.

THE recently-published Bulletin of the French Geographical Society for the first quarter of 1892 contains a very interesting paper by Mons. Henri Dauvergne, entitled, "Exploration dans l'Asie Centrale," and illustrated by a map of his journey. M. Dauvergne is a French gentleman who has resided for some years in Kashmir, and had previously made excursions across the Himalayas to Kashgar and the Northern Pamirs. In 1889 he again crossed the great ranges into Turkestan, and travelled along the northern slopes of the Kuen-Lun and the Hindu Kush Ranges to the Southern Pamirs and the sources of the Oxus. He left Srinagar on June 22nd, and followed the well-known route from thence eastwards to Leh and northwards over the Karakoram Pass as far as Suget and Sanju Kurgan. Thence he struck north-west over the Kilian Pass, taking a route which, though known, has not, so far as I am aware, been ever travelled by a European, and he maintained a line of exploration of his own from thence westwards for a considerable distance, until he reached the sources of the Oxus. Descending this river until he reached a point opposite the Baroghil Pass, over the Hindu Kush Range, he crossed over into the Mastuj-Chitral Valley and ascended it, and then crossed a very difficult and previously unexplored pass leading into the Karambar Valley. Thence he returned *via* Gilgit to Srinagar, where he arrived on November 8th, after an interesting journey of four and half months' duration, over a distance of 1500 to 1600 miles, much of which had not previously been travelled by any European.

M. Dauvergne's object seems to have been primarily to enjoy himself and shoot *Ovis Poli*; but he evidently had some intention of acquiring geographical

* Or Chang-Kia-Kou (*cf.* Prejevalsky's 'Mongolia,' i. 34).