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## CORRESPONDENCE.

### The Tsang-po.

Mishmi Hills, April 18, 1913.

IN connection with the question of Kintup's exploration of the Tsang-po, referred to in Mr. Field's letter in the March number of the *Journal*, I think that the following may be interesting.

I recently met a Tibetan who has frequently travelled in the lower Tsang-po valley. Fifteen years ago he passed down the river into the Abor country as far as Mobuk (or Gobuk), some 5 or 6 miles south-east of Shimong. He confirms Kintup's report in a remarkable way, especially as regards the villages in the Abor country, though in two cases Kintup has apparently reversed the positions of two adjacent villages. This might be expected in relating his story from memory more than a year after the places had been visited.

The Tibetan tells me that above the junction of the Nagong Chu and the Tsang-po the latter river flows through a gorge through which there is no road. This confirms Kintup's report. He had never heard of any falls of the Tsang-po itself, though there are falls on a tributary; the river is said to come down in rapids. It is quite possible for rainbows to be formed over rapids, and I have seen them myself over the Lohit river.

The Survey report on Kintup's journey says, "The Tsang-po is 2 chains distant from the monastery (where Kintup and his Chinese lama were stopping), and about 2 miles off it falls over a cliff called Sinji-chogyal from a height of about 150 feet. There is a big lake at the foot of the falls, where rainbows are always observable." I do not think that from the above quotation it is by any means certain that

Kintup actually visited the falls. It reads as though he were reporting information he had gathered. Possibly the records of the Survey of India may have more definite information, or perhaps Lama "U.G.," who is, I believe, living in Kalimpong, could elucidate this point.

The Tibetan who gave me the above information had actually heard of Kintup, though he did not know any details of his movements. He tells me that many years ago a man was sent by the Indian Government to find out in what direction the Tsang-po flowed. The Government, he says, were anxious to prove that the holy waters which flow past Lhasa eventually find their way to Buddh-Gaza. The man cut thousands of logs of different sizes and of a peculiar shape, and threw them into the Tsang-po. These logs were afterwards found at Buddh-Gaza, together with others which had been thrown into the upper waters of the Ganges and Lohit, thus proving that these three rivers united in the most holy of Buddhist places.

We may, perhaps, allow rumour in Tibet to add a little romance to the foundations laid by Kintup's journey.

F. M. BAILEY, Captain.

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## MEETINGS OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, SESSION 1912-1913.

SPECIAL MEETING AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL.

*May 21, 1912.*—The Right Hon. EARL CURZON OF KEDLESTON, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., etc., President, in the Chair.

Reception of Members of Captain Scott's Antarctic Expedition. Paper by Captain Evans, R.N.

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### RESEARCH MEETING.

*May 22, 1913.*—H. YATES THOMPSON, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The paper read was:—

"A Statistical Study of Wheat Cultivation and Trade, 1881-1910." By J. F. Unstead, M.A., D.Sc.

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*Anniversary Meeting, May 26, 1913.*—The Right Hon. EARL CURZON OF KEDLESTON, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., etc., President, in the Chair.

The Secretary read the Minutes of the last Anniversary Meeting, which were confirmed and signed by the President. The election of new Fellows was announced.

ELECTIONS.—*Eckley B. Cox*; *Arthur Samuel Cuff*; *Prof. Harry W. Foote*; *David Hawkins*; *Mrs. Marion Burnside Macleod*; *Rev. Roger C. Morrell*; *G. Stuart Seaton*; *Arthur P. Stockings*; *Lieut.-Colonel Arthur Tilney (17th Lancers)*; *Miss Daisy Wimbush, B.A. (Lond.)*.

### PRESENTATION OF MEDALS AND OTHER AWARDS.

The PRESIDENT: The next item on our programme is the presentation of awards. You are all of you familiar with the circumstances in which and the reasons for which we have decided to make the particular awards of the present year. Of the two Gold Medals that are usually given one only is being awarded on the present