

these shepherds are employed by *bajs*, that is rich men or merchants, and each flock has its own appointed grazing-grounds, beyond which it is not permitted to wander. Except at Kuruk-asti and Sorun, there are no fixed settlements, the shepherds' huts (*satmas*) in other places being very slight structures, meant for temporary occupation only.

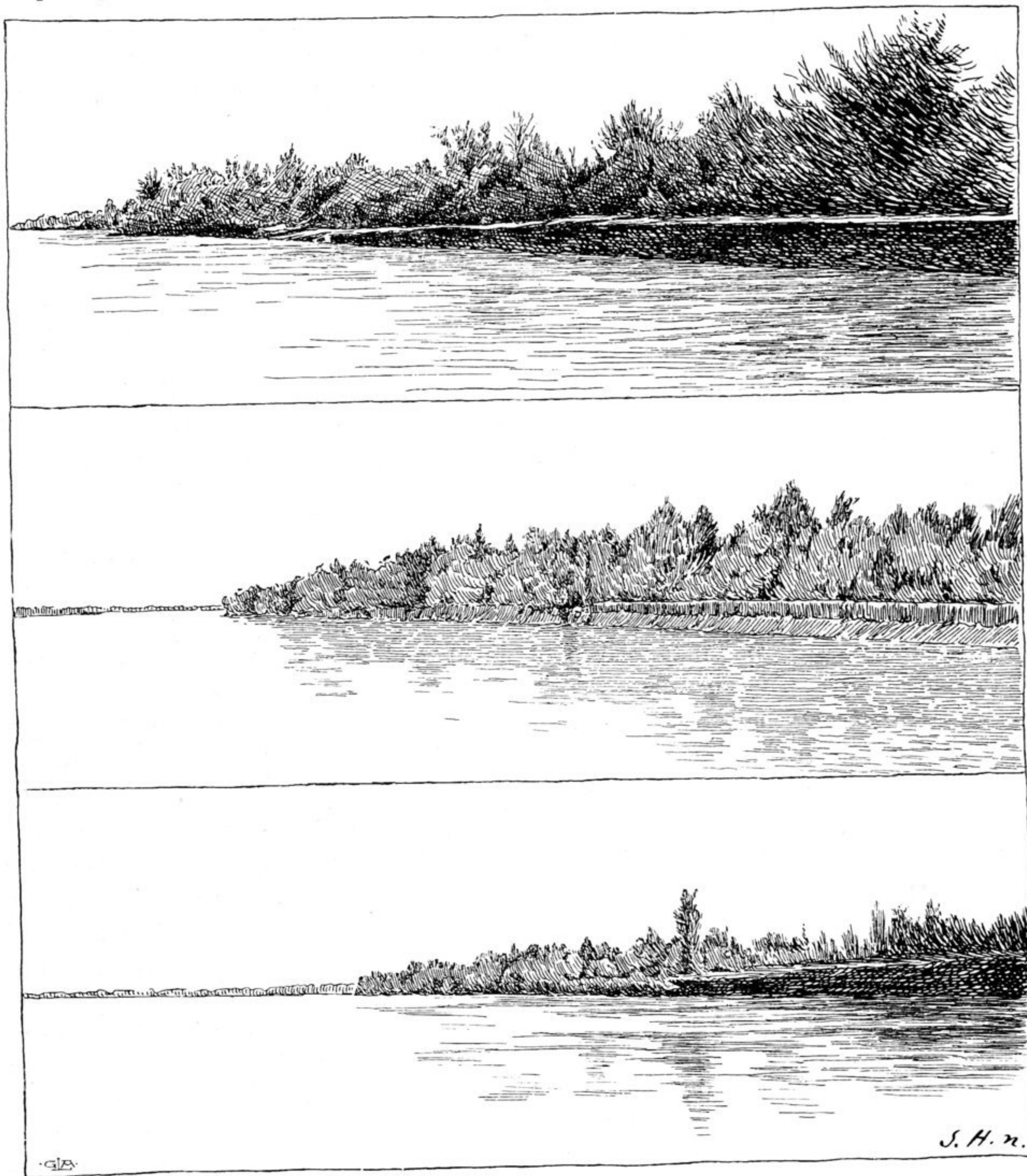


Fig. 74. SCENERY ON THE BANKS OF THE LOWER JARKENT-DARJA.

The law or custom, known as *novot*, which determines the order in which the several villages shall enjoy a free supply of irrigation water, as well as the period of time they shall be entitled to its usufruct, has hitherto scarcely ever been put