

In the district of Tolotto-ottogho there is the beginning of yet another overflow channel, which soon goes to join the Öttök-kaldi. This last is said at some time or other to have traversed a series of lakes, now dry, situated for the most part on this side of the great sand. A couple of deserted homesteads on the left bank are known as Ghaib Värđi-ujj. The name of the right bank is Dadani-ottogho. Immediately below this lies the lake of Bobane-uktusu, with, on its upper shore, a small clump of poplars, probably fifteen years old. Poplars are however so rare in these tracts that I was able literally to map every clump, were it only of two or three trees together — nay, I actually entered every single solitary tree, so that, if I were to travel down the river again, I should be able to recognise every one individually. Some distance below the Kirtschin arm there are tamarisks, growing on their mounds, which have in many cases been surprised and cut off by the newly-formed river. In some places one can plainly see how the forest is in these regions disseminated; for poplars of one or at the most two years which have drifted down the river have here succeeded in fixing their roots on the very verge of the stream; and similarly of a quantity of bushes. In the old river-beds there is a good deal of drift-wood stuck fast in the mud at the bottom, trees projecting half their length above the surface of the water: this is especially the case in the vicinity of the Bajir-köl.

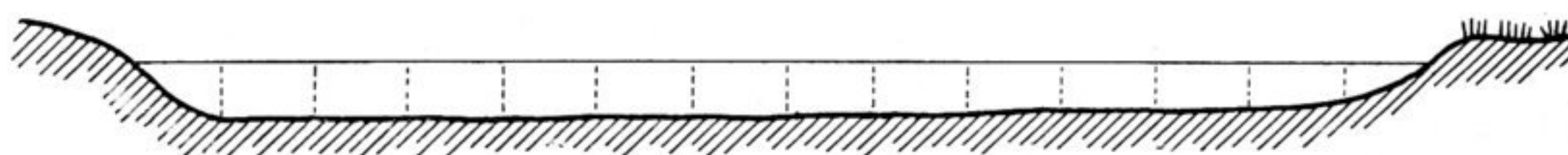


Fig. 147. Right. 1.95 1.87 1.86 1.91 1.88 1.83 1.82 1.77 1.64 1.56 1.49 1.35 1.30 = depth. Left.
 73 136 167 171 178 181 175 165 163 139 117 88 67 } velocity.
 108 139 149 166 176 181 160 171 160 144 123 106 72 }
 113 142 137 150 150 168 140 158 162 137 123 105 64 }
 Breadth = 42.60 m. Tarim at Kirtschin, May 7. Scale 1:400.

All the morning and noon of the 23rd May there was a strong east wind, but in the afternoon it veered round to the south-west. When we passed up-stream on the 7th May we also had an east wind just here, and great was the help it gave the men paddling against the stream, although they did indeed avoid the middle of the current and kept their canoes as far as possible to the smooth water over the alluvial deposits. During the night of the 6—7th May the river dropped 3.1 cm. On 7th May I took the following measurements immediately below the Kirtschin-arm — breadth of river 42.60 m.; mean depth, 1.588 m.; mean velocity, 1.3167 m.; volume, 89.06 cub.m. in the second. At the same place I again took measurements on the 23rd May, with the following results — breadth, 42.30 m.; mean depth, 1.328 m.; mean velocity, 1.3990 m.; volume, 78.58 cub.m. in the second. These two series of results admit of being compared together all the more readily, because on both occasions

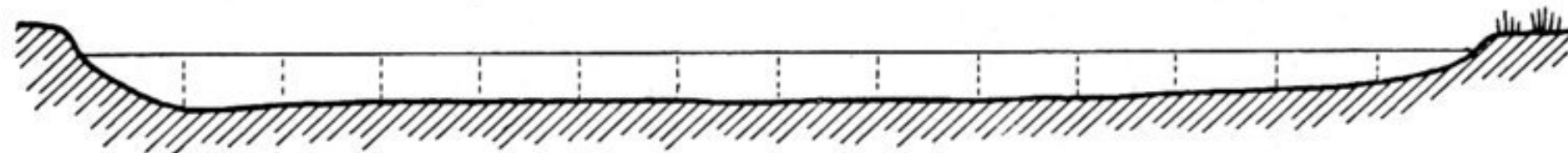


Fig. 148. Right. 1.73 1.55 1.57 1.59 1.59 1.58 1.54 1.47 1.37 1.32 1.21 1.10 0.97 = depth. Left.
 76 136 166 189 178 190 181 182 180 162 140 108 84 } velocity.
 100 142 165 186 179 183 181 185 158 146 159 94 86 }
 100 124 158 158 168 160 169 161 153 151 136 119 82 }
 Breadth = 42.30 m. The same place, May 23. Scale 1:400.