

many other stadia of development than those which I have described are those in which it remains on the whole pretty constant to one bed, as, for instance, in the Jarkent-darja. In the lower Tarim however this essential condition is wanting, and consequently the development of the loops in that part are sooner or later interrupted whenever the river seeks an entirely fresh bed. Then fresh loops are formed, whilst those in the former bed dry up, become filled with sediment etc. and vegetation, and finally disappear. Fig. 169 shows in outline a panoramic view of stadium B in the loop we are considering; the visible parts of the eroded bank stand out very much darker, as though they lay in the shade. My reason for dwelling in such detail upon this topic is that in the portion of the Tarim which we are now about to consider boldschemals are extraordinarily plentiful. They are also very numerous for a long way below the confluence of the Ak-su-darja, as I mentioned whilst describing that part of the stream. The river there flows generally faster, and carries a greater volume, so that the loops probably grow at a more rapid rate.

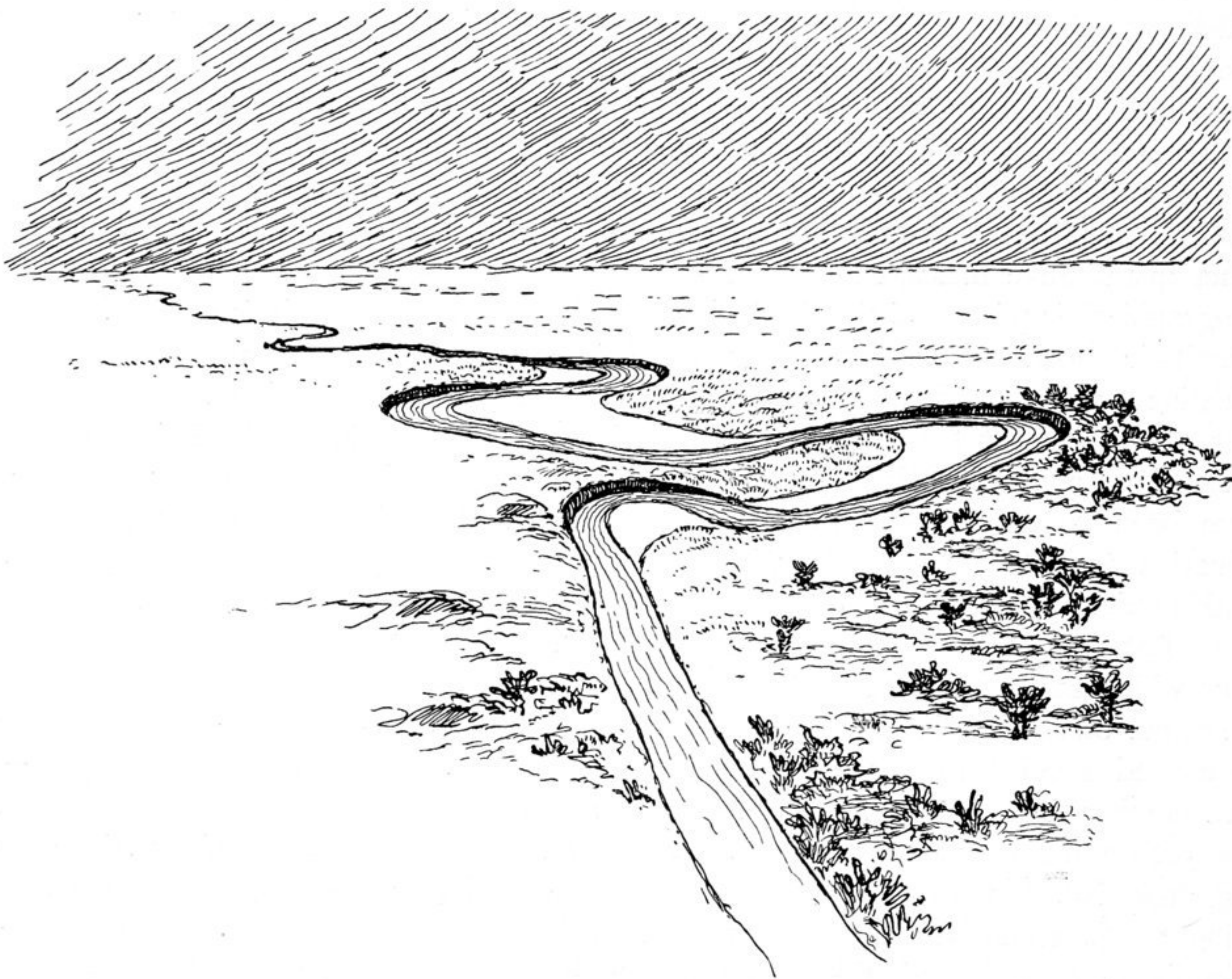


Fig. 169. PANORAMIC VIEW OF STADIUM B IN THE LOOP.

There is also another reason why it is profitable to discuss this problem at some length, for it involves as an implicate that the topography of the river is constantly and uninterruptedly changing. The map of the Jarkent-darja and the Tarim, which I reproduce in the accompanying atlas, cannot, from the topographical