

No. of Point.	M. below Starting-Point.	M. below Level of Kara-koschun.
81	3.523	1.241
82	3.863	1.581
83	3.971	1.689
93	2.952	0.670
95	2.871	0.589
96	2.663	0.381
98	3.791	1.509
99	3.350	1.068
101	2.711	0.429
106	2.921	0.639
124	2.952	0.670
125	2.884	0.602
127	2.965	0.683
128	2.993	0.711
129	3.981	1.699
130	3.938	1.656
131	3.349	1.067
134	2.299	0.017

From this table, as well as from the sections, it appears that all these stations occur in the same neighbourhood, a part of the desert moreover which comes immediately south of Lâu-lan, where, according to the Chinese maps, the bed of the Lop-nor was situated. The mean value of the last column is 0.939 m., so that, taking the average, the 18 stations quoted lie approximately 1 m. below the level of the Kara-koschun. If we possessed the results of several similar surveyed lines across this depression, we should be in a position to draw an isobathic map of the dry basin of the Lop-nor, and so get a picture of its cavity, showing the extent to which it has been excavated by the wind. The mean value just quoted is almost the same as that which we found to be the mean depth of the Kara-koschun in the beginning of April 1900, namely 0.81 m.

The distance between stations No. 81 and No. 134 amounts to 11,617 m., and along this stretch there are in all 54 stations, and of these 54 stations 51 lie below the starting-point and 18 below the Kara-koschun. It is however impossible to say how great a portion of the line lies below the level of the lake. If however we assume that the proportion between the number of intervals of distance (53) and the 18 stations is the same as that between 11,617 m. and x , then $x = 3945$ m. In round numbers it may be said that a distance of 4 km. lies below the level of the Kara-koschun, and if a canal were to be cut between the two, those 4 km. would be covered with water. The remainder of the distance, or 7.6 km., would rise above the surface of the lake, though nowhere more than 3.408 m., which is precisely half as high as the tallest kamisch rises above the water-level of the Kara-koschun. Taking the mean of all the 36 stations which in the northern depression lie above the level of the Kara-koschun (i. e. the stations between No. 81 and No. 134), the stretch of 7.6 km. would lie 1.143 m. above the lake; and it is only a question of time how soon this really small layer of clay will be planed away by the wind.