

At first we travelled south-east, crossing the little range that separates Kar-jakkak from Kitschik-kara-balik. Lower down this glen unites with the Tschong-kara-balik, the two being separated by a spur from the main range of the Tschimen-tagh. The name Tschong-kara-balik, although meaning the Big Black Fish, is not in any way intended to point to the existence of fish, only to the débris of the black schist which litters its bottom. At the point where we crossed over it, this glen consists of two smaller convergent glens, each traversed by a brook that issues from the main range of the Tschimen-tagh, which we now had pretty close on the south-west. The united Tschong-kara-balik appears to be of a considerable size and runs towards the north-east. The Kar-jakkak is probably identical with the Samsak-ajding and the Kara-balik with the Kasch-otak, the latter names being doubtless restricted to the lower ends of the glens.



Fig. 41.

The two brooks I have mentioned, together with several others which we passed later, have cut their beds 3 to 4 m. deep, and have steeply eroded banks. It is only in the bottoms and sides of these watercourses that we find the bare granite and coarse gravel, all the slopes thereabouts consisting otherwise of soft material. The next brook of the same character is the Kuruk-saj, which, to judge from its

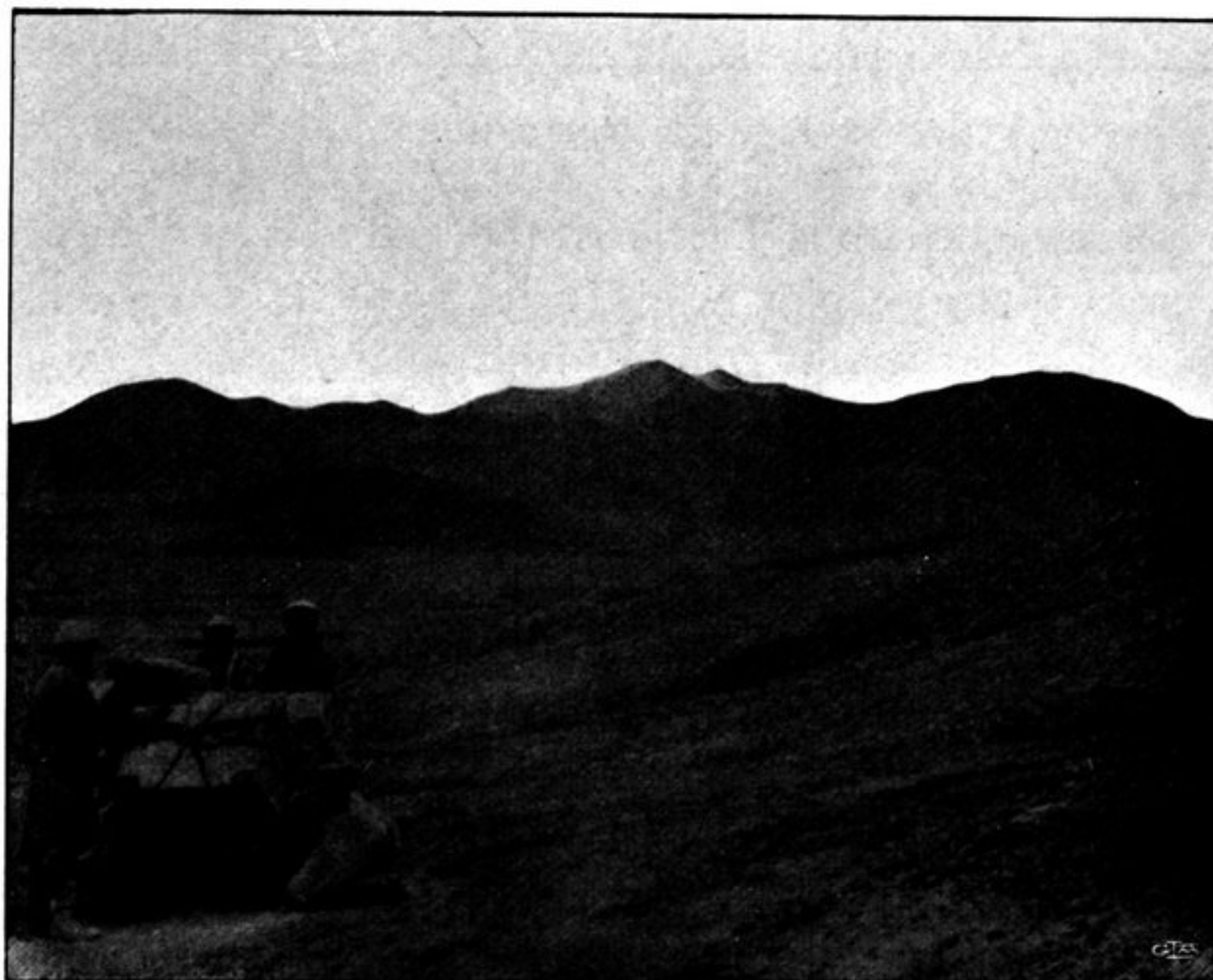


Fig. 42. IN THE SOFT UNDULATING PARTS OF UPPER TSCHIMEN-TAGH.

*Hedin, Journey in Central Asia. III.*