

name, only carries water sometimes, as, for instance, after a fall of snow. After crossing over a succession of rounded heights, consisting exclusively of soft material, though frequently intermingled with fine gravel and fragments of sharp-edged stone, we descended into the Tschong-saj, a broad transverse glen coming down from the main range and terminating eventually in the Tschimen valley or in its continuation in the Tsajdam basin. Its direction here was N. 20° E., and from the right it is joined by a similar glen with a brook, likewise bearing the same name. The two glens of Dung-saj and K rk r ma, both traversed by brooks of running water, proceed towards the north, and are separated from one another by a secondary spur. East of this little ridge lies a trough-shaped collecting basin, seamed by innumerable watercourses, all of which gather into a larger glen running towards the N. 20° W., and bordered on the north-east by a larger spur composed of black rock.



Fig. 43. THE SAME.

After that we ascended to a flat pass, the water-divide between the last-named glen and the glen of Kara-tschoka, which runs S. 75° E. On our right, that is to the south, there was a prominent bluff, which we had to get round by travelling south, south-west, and west-south-west. Thereupon we continued on the flanks of this bluff, and advanced a short distance up the glen of Japkaklik-saj, shut in at its head by lofty, snow-capped peaks. There was only a trickling rivulet in the bottom of the glen. Owing to the heavy clouds our view was restricted, and only once or twice did we guess, rather than see, the beautiful mountain panorama to the east-north-east, with spurs jutting out *en  chelon* into the valley, which extends all the way to Puj. The altitude here was 3998 m., that is to say but little more than at the last camp.

This day it snowed again, and towards evening the snow fell in whirling masses, bringing with it a heavy precipitation. Some of my guides declared that at that season, that is in the middle of summer, it sometimes snows five days in suc-