

in Tibet. And the weather was so mild that we also saw flies and humble-bees, and even a few midges.

At one point on the shore of the western lake there crops out a small portion of hard rock, consisting of a green, coarsely crystalline variety dipping 70° E., greatly weathered and surrounded by gravel of black argillaceous schists. On the isthmus between the two lakes the same rock dips 56° towards the S. 35° W. Farther on beside the eastern lake there is a smaller outcrop of a hard violet-black variety of rock. The steep mountain-walls near the camp (see Pl. 22) consisted of red conglomerate, dipping 80° towards the S. 30° E. With these exceptions all the mountains and ridges in this neighbourhood consist of friable, disintegrated matter. O' indicates our isolated, dominating mountain-group, which had been within sight during the last two days; from this camp its direction was S. 33° E.

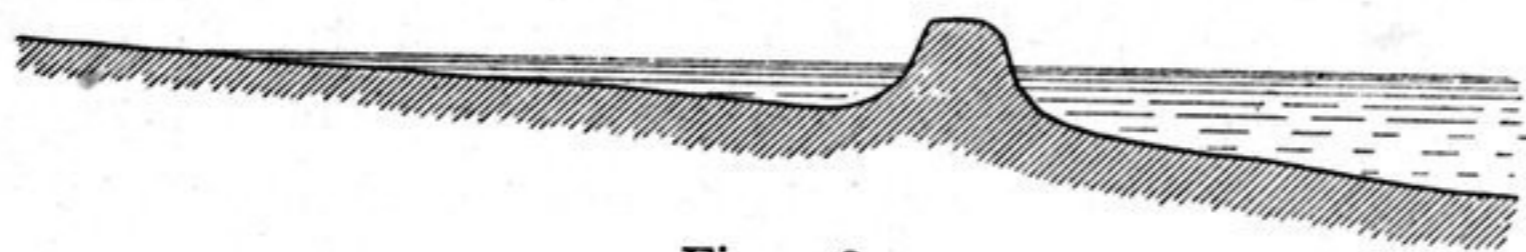


Fig. 98.

The nearest summit west of our camp afforded an excellent view of the surroundings. We saw how the lake narrows towards the north and terminates in a rounded bay, probably pretty shallow. Beyond that, and also forming its northern continuation, lies a large pool, completely cut off and fed by streams from the circumjacent heights. A low isthmus parts it from the lake. The ridge which runs round the north-western corner of the lake appeared to continue beyond the pool, and had a red tinge. From the heights north-west and west-north-west of our outlook the rivulets gather into a large brook, which enters a small bay cutting into a blunted sedimentary peninsula, with a couple of lagoons. On the opposite or eastern shore there is a very long and broken rampart of sediment. Some kilometers to the N. 80° W. we saw the blue gleam of a sheet of water; this must have been the salt lake beside which we made Camp XXXV.

On the 1st September the caravan doubled the northern end of the lake. In that direction it contracts to a sharp, narrow bay, and is joined by several small brooks, though by no large ones. The ground was everywhere firm, the grazing good, and the usual fuel abundant. Taking the little skiff, I myself paid a visit to the cliffs that in places overhang the lake, and some of the impending pieces looked as if they might come crashing down at any moment. The upper part of the cliff-wall consists of red conglomerate, the base of red sandstone, dipping 72° towards the S. 85° E. All the mountains in the immediate vicinity appeared to consist of the same varieties of rock. Close in shore the lake was $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 m. deep; and the abrasion terrace, which is littered with gravel and large blocks of stone, is 50 to 75 m. broad.

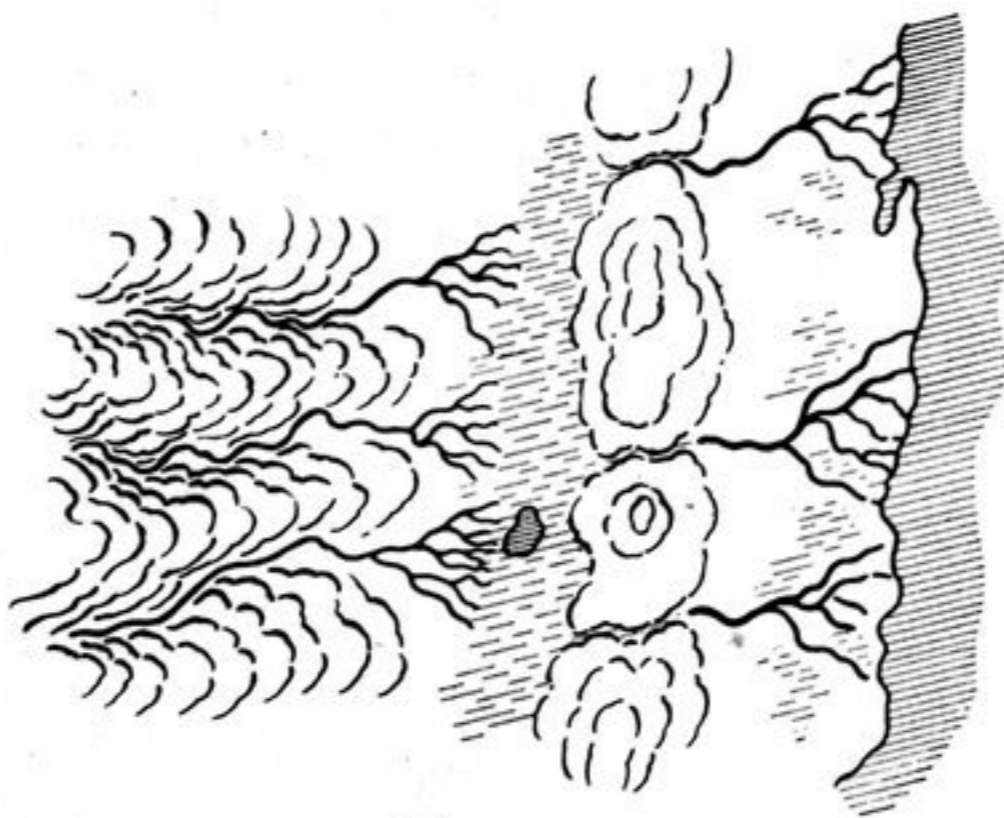


Fig. 99.