

CHAPTER IX.

A DETOUR ROUND THE GREAT GLACIATED MOUNTAIN.

September 5th. Immediately below our camp the river was entered by a pretty broad stream, which however was shallow, and had an extremely sluggish flow. After that the river widens out into a funnel-like estuary, beset with numerous islets and mud-banks, overgrown with grass. Upon emerging from the estuary, we

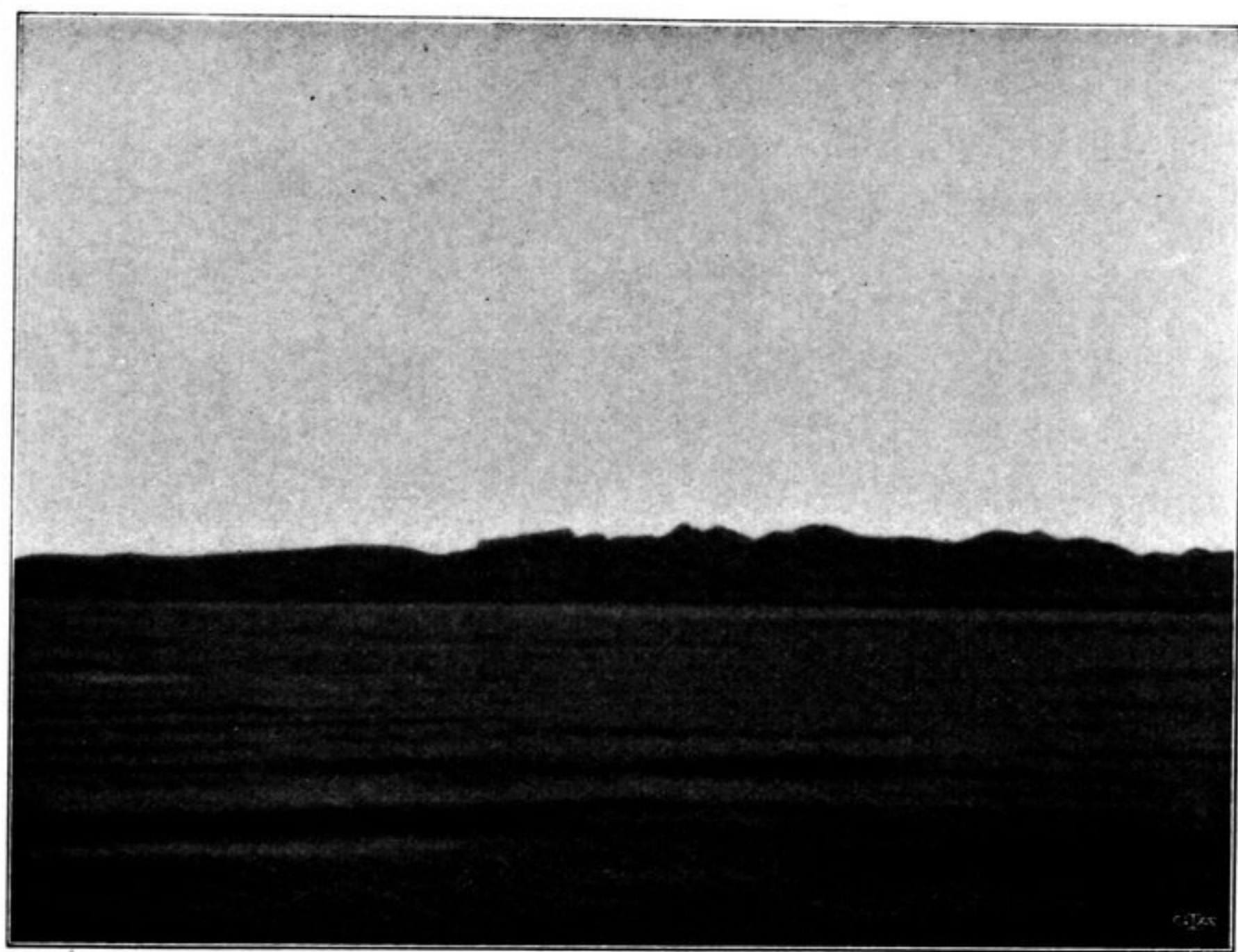


Fig. 107. THE WESTERN FRESHWATER LAKE.

had the broadest part of the lake on our right, that is the north. The excursion which I now made across it towards the west-north-west was carried out under very unfavourable conditions; but the course we followed was in general nearer to the southern shore than to the northern, and consequently the depth was but slight, nowhere as much as 3 m. Owing to the extraordinary flatness of the southern shore, we were scarce able to see it; the opposite or northern shore, on the con-