

were now visible in foreshortened perspective in the west, while the peak C₃ was on our right. The basin of the Atschik-köl lay behind us, shrouded in mist, and the crest of the Arka-tagh was no longer visible.

At length we reached the pass (alt. 5143 m.). I can only pronounce it too difficult a pass for our caravan after it had spent three months in Tibet. From its summit a panorama of mountain-peaks and ranges was now unfolded to our gaze. In the west and north-west was a massive spur which B₃ thrusts out towards the north, and between us and it were several similar spurs all parallel to one another. Afar off in the north was a range that runs east and west. From our then point of vantage it was not possible to obtain with any degree of clearness an insight into that chaos of mountains, that labyrinth of glens and valleys. Just east of the pass we discovered two very large, though short, truncated glacier-arms, descending from C₃ towards the north-west. The northern acclivity of the pass is pretty steep. In the little glen in which we pitched Camp LXVII (alt. 5108 m.) there was neither grass nor fuel nor water.



Fig. 138. VERTICAL SECTION OF A RAVINE.

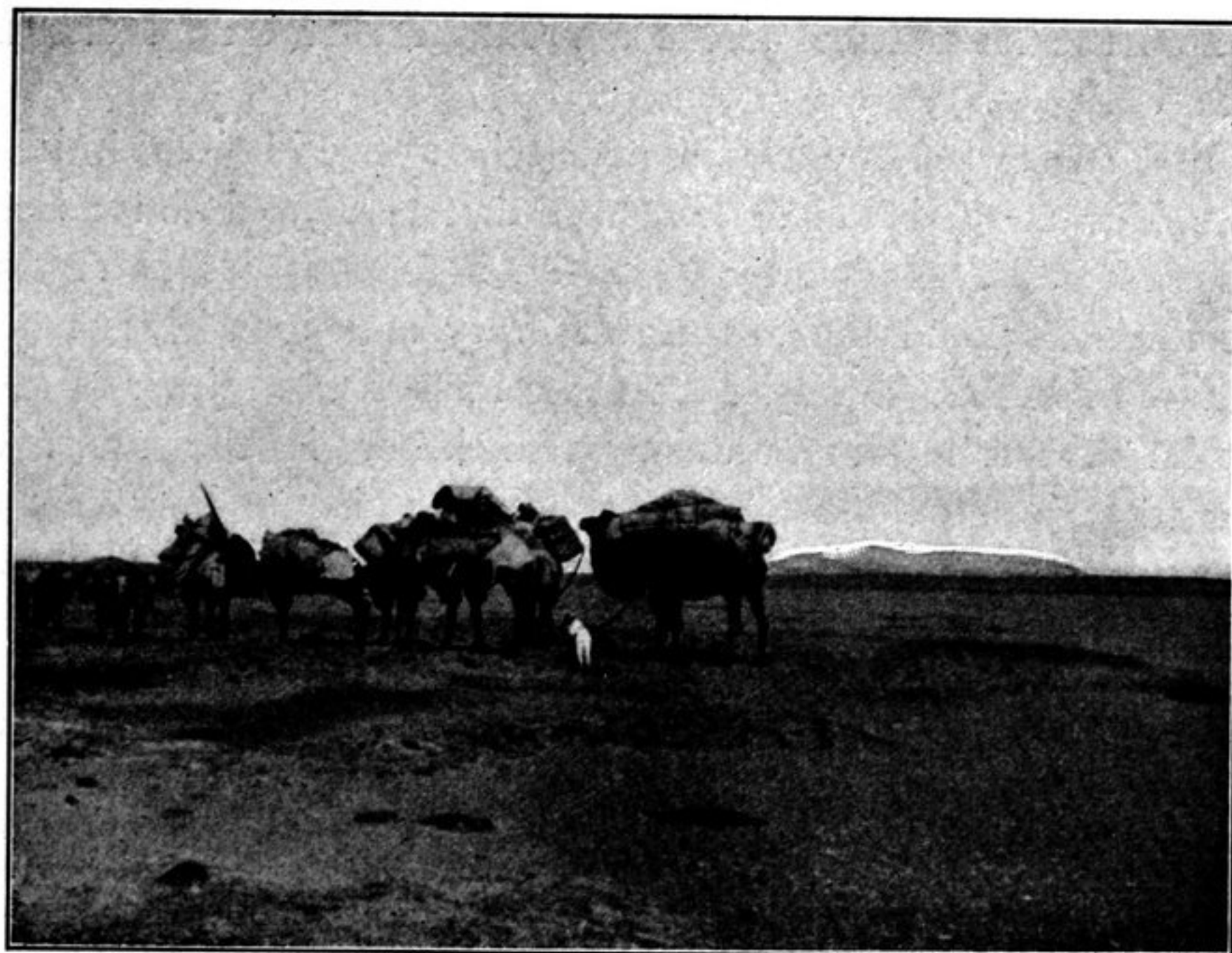


Fig. 139 ON THE PLAINS S. E. OF ATSCHIK-KÖL.

Not far north of Camp LXVI a small rib of sandstone cropped up out of the ground at an inclination of 74° N. In the vertical sides of the deep ravines sections of argillaceous schist and conglomerate were exposed here and there, at first at an angle of 56° W., but later with a dip of 57° towards the N. 25° E. Amongst the débris with which the watercourses were choked was also some granite, and it is of granite that the strata of gravel-and-shingle essentially consisted. Nevertheless we saw no hard granite rock all day long; but no doubt the peaks B₃ and C₃ are built up of this rock. Immediately south of the camp we found a reddish schist, dipping 51°