

CHAPTER XII.

FROM TOGHRI-SAJ TO TEMIRLIK: ROCK PICTURES.

October 9th. A little way below our camp the glen inclines to the east, and at the same time grows broad and open. Down the middle of it wound the ice-bound torrent. Although the glen still continued to be filled with detritus, travelling was not so difficult. Beyond the spur on the left side of the glen rises a considerable range, crowned by two dome-shaped snowy peaks. The mountains that now inclosed the glen on the right were fairly low.



Fig. 149. VERTICAL SECTION AT CAMP LXIX.

The entire region was painfully destitute of vegetation; soft ground there was none whatever. It was only after we turned the next elbow, and the glen assumed a more northerly direction, that we found a little wretched grass. A multitude of dry torrents, with which the detritus at the bottom of the glen is furrowed, indicate that the summer flood must be especially large; in fact it must grow bigger as it rolls down the glen, for it is joined by several tributaries as it proceeds. Three of these side-glen are particularly large, and two of them seem to issue from the recently mentioned snow-clad peaks.

At Camp LXIX we observed three very distinct superimposed terraces. The lowest is about 12 m. thick (or deep), the middle one 7 m., and the uppermost one 15 m. (fig. 149). On the left side of the glen the two top terraces are composed entirely of detritus and gravel-and-shingle, while the bottom terrace, which forms an almost perfectly vertical wall, and is directly exposed to the erosive action of the torrent, consists of hard rock, namely greenstone. All day these three terraces were as a rule severally distinguishable, though occasionally at the bends or angles they become fused into one. Often the green schist crops out in their faces, and often too they are pierced by narrow transverse ravines. At Camp LXIX the green, fine-grained schist cropped out at 70° to the S. 45° E.; at the elbow where the glen bends to