

consequently describes an arc round a protuberance on the left-hand side of the glen.

After proceeding a short distance south we turned towards the south-west, close to the mouth of the glen, having immediately on our right hand the extreme offshoots of the right side of the glen. These are especially compact and wild, with pinnacles, promontories, and minarets, all of red granite. The extreme outliers of the left side of the glen are less connected, and terminate in several detached pinnacled summits and protuberances. The general impression is one of wildness and fantastic ruggedness, and the bare cliffs reach all the way down to the bottom of the glen, in which there lies an abundance of detritus. We turned away, to the right, from the eroded watercourse; this is very accentuated, being inclosed between steep erosion terraces, often rising in two stories. It evidently owes its energetic excavation to temporary floods of rainwater. But after passing the last outliers on the left, it grows both shallower and broader in proportion as the steepness of its fall towards the south decreases.

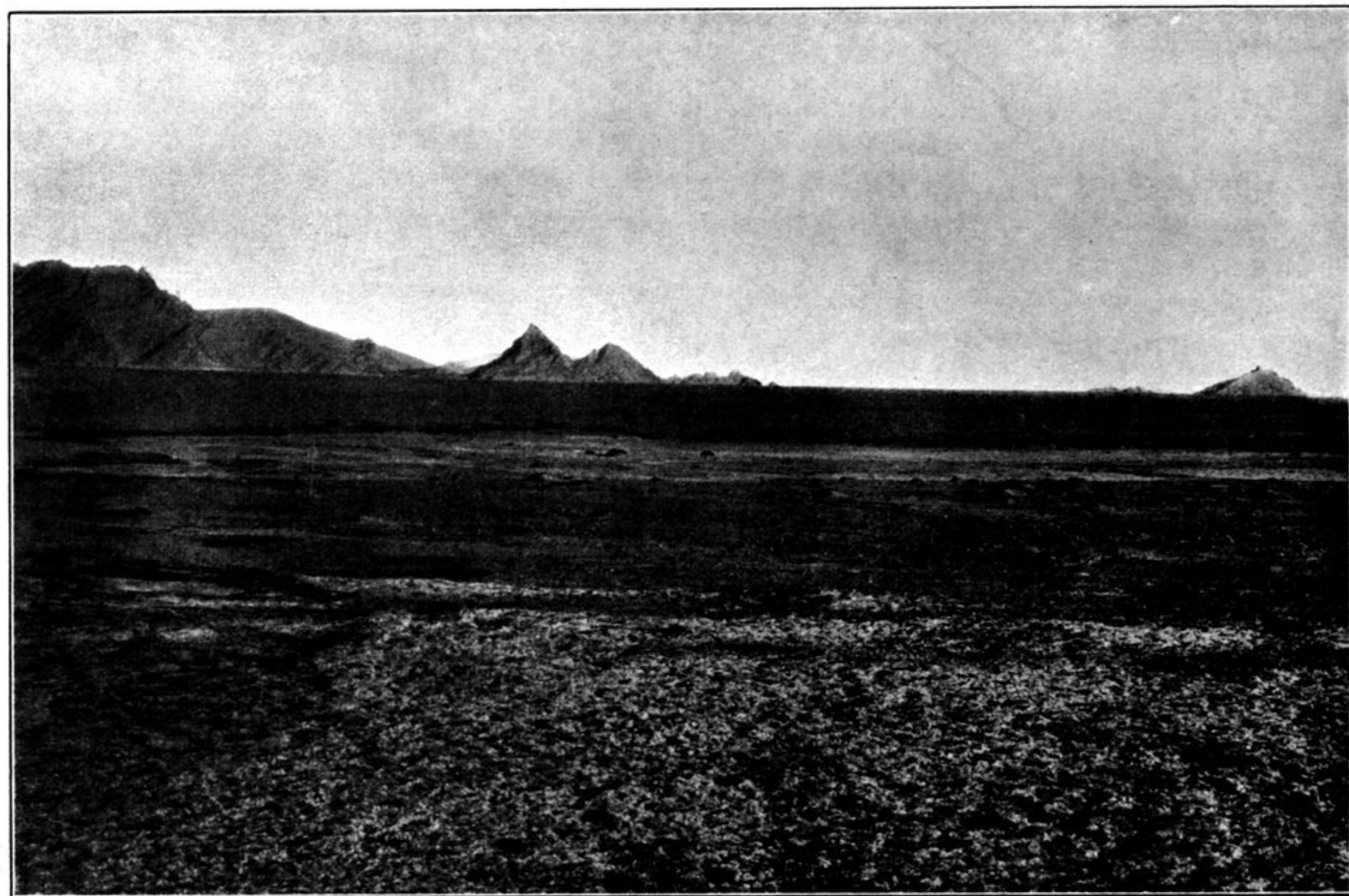


Fig. 172. EASTERN PART OF KALTA-ALAGHAN AS SEEN FROM CAMP LXXXII (CONTINUATION ON THE RIGHT OF FIG. 171).

In front of us we had once more the immense basin of the Kum-köl; we appeared to be standing on the edge of a very extensive flat plain. The great mountain-ranges that we became acquainted with in our last excursion, still in part capped with snow, wore in the far-off distance the appearance of faint narrow stripes on the horizon. From where we stood the upper lake of Kum-köl was not visible;