

use in these journeys of the ancient road so often alluded to above. During this day's march it was again quite distinct, being always indicated by means of cairns of stones, one or two of which were of large size. In the vicinity of our Camp CXI the road appeared to divide, one branch running down to Lap-schi-tschen and the Kakir valley, while the other continued along our latitudinal valley as far as Ku-schui-cha, and so on to Anambaruin-gol.

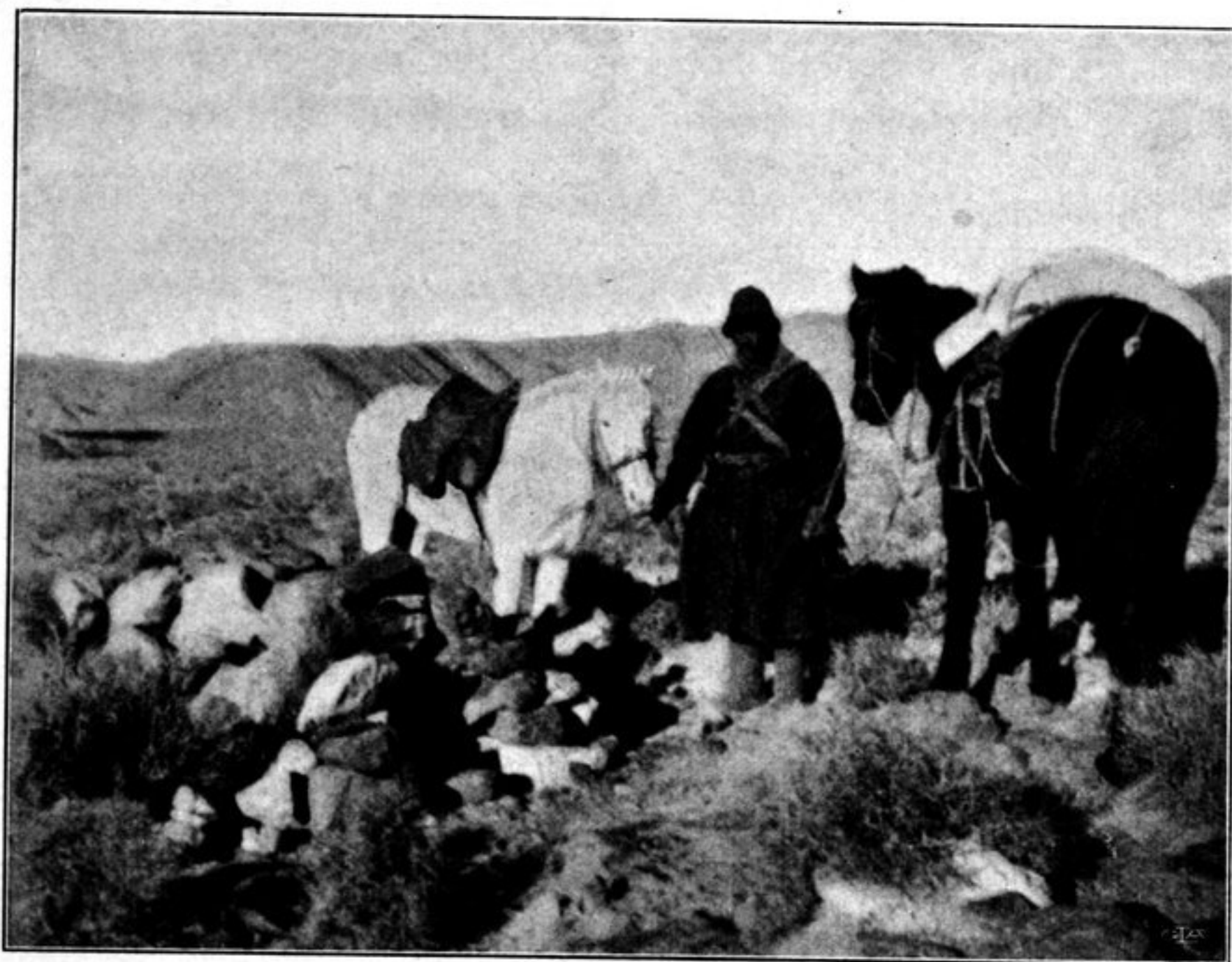


Fig. 256. THE FOX-TRAP AT KU-SCHUI-CHA.

Near Camp CXI there occurred a species of hard black rock, finely crystalline breaking readily under the hammer, and dipping 56° towards the N. 20° W. Similar dark-coloured schists appeared to continue all the way after that. At Ku-schui-cha was a smaller mountain-mass, composed of red granite. The plentiful gravel in the latitudinal valley consisted of granite, quartzite, and schists, often in pretty big pieces.

From sunset an exceptionally violent storm raged all night and all the next day, and made the already intense cold almost unbearable.

On 31st December we continued our march down the latitudinal valley, travelling N. 72° E. The ground was soft and comfortable to ride over, and was moreover perfectly level, except for a slight rise towards the east-north-east, where there was a little bare swelling at the northern foot of the mountains.

We had an uninterrupted view down the glen of Ku-schui-cha; it appeared to run towards the N. 60° W., and then to skirt round the lower big range of foothills on the west. The strip of kamisch soon came to an end, and was succeeded by scrub and grass, growing in small tufts. There the valley widens out again to 2 or 3 km. The range on the right still continued to be massive and grand, with strongly accentuated relief forms, but without any specially outstanding peaks, its