

that at Camp CXIV; and thirdly that in the transverse glen of the Anambaruin-gol (see vol. II p. 472), which would seem to have been occupied by Tungans or Chinese from Sa-tscheo.



Fig. 261. A FREE-STANDING RIDGE IN THE VALLEY.

Soon after that the valley narrows, and is deeply trenched between the mountains, and at the same time the ascent is appreciable. The watercourse itself has cut deep down into the gravel-and-shingle detritus, and has in general vertical sides, consisting not infrequently of two or three steps or stages. We crossed over the watercourse in the very throat of the glen, and then kept along its left, or southern, escarpment. Its bed was choked with gravel, amongst which there were sheets of ice in two places, proclaiming the presence of springs. The mountains on the right of the glen, that is the range which we had on *our left* and which narrowed to a point at the walls I have mentioned, have a very steep slope towards the south, and close in to their base creeps the watercourse. The southern range, on our right hand, which is here of course the main range of the Astin-tagh, is wild and majestic, being gapped by a host of transverse glens, the upper parts of which are steep, narrow, and deep-cut, though their outlets are broader. From them small side-glens proceed to join the watercourse of the main valley.

After that the valley assumes a peculiar form, a form however which would appear to be not unusual in the Astin-tagh, in that down its middle runs an elon-

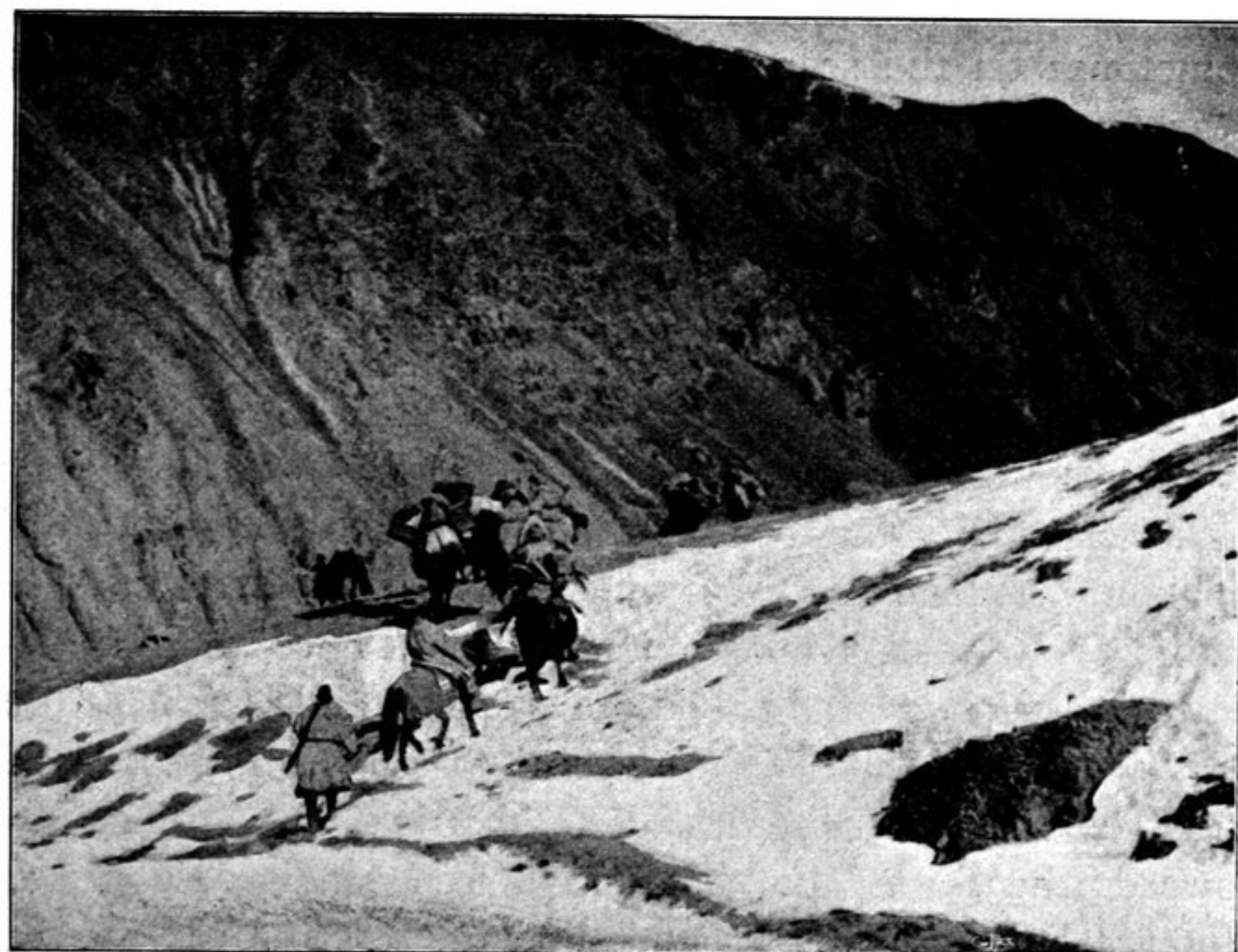


Fig. 262. THE UPPER PART OF THE VALLEY OF ANAMBARUIN-GOL.