

course until we came to Scho-ovo-tun-buluk, a spring that breaks out in the entrance of a side-glen on the right, and at the same time forms a sheet of ice in the main watercourse. From that point the track follows the scarped hills on the right side of the glen, although these are cleft in very many places by the deep ravines of the side-glens. At times the path runs as it were along a shelf, being strengthened at dangerous spots by stone slabs. Several deeply trenched side-glens join the glen from the left also.

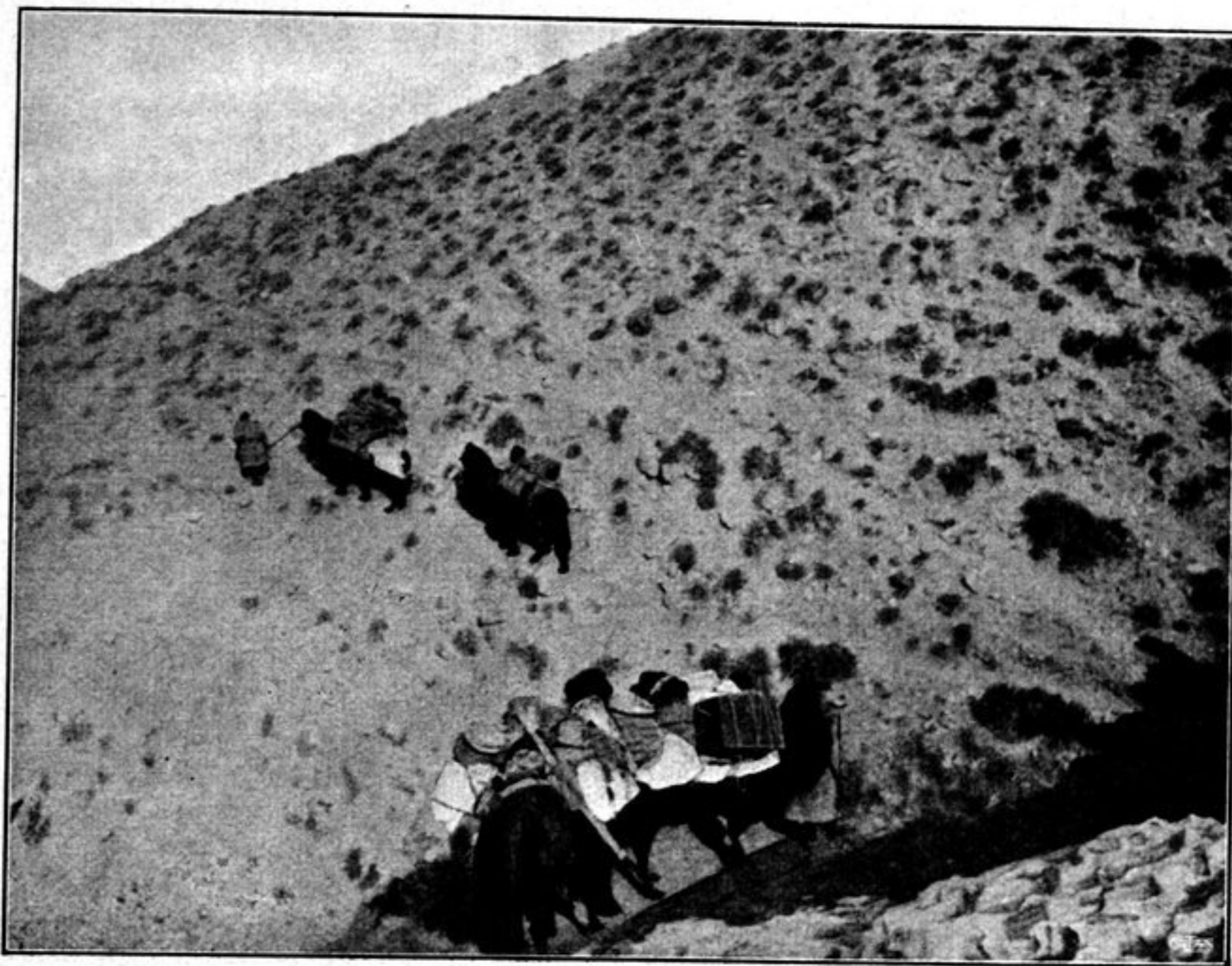


Fig. 270. THE WAY UP TO THE PASS.

At Dundu-buluk a second spring occurs in a side-glen on the right, and gives rise to a sheet of ice in the bed of the main watercourse. Here the grazing was fairly good on the flatter earthy slopes on the left side of the glen, and we counted some fifty horses at graze upon it. After keeping for a short distance to the left of the ice-sheet, the path crossed over it, and then ran up and down the bottom of the slopes on the right. Presently the glen widened out a little. The openings of the larger of the side-glens allowed us to see at their head the main crests of the two grand and imposing spurs which hem in this energetically modelled glen. We encamped in the throat of an especially big side-glen on the right, the watercourse of which was full of gravel and bordered by strongly marked, double terraces. Here the grazing was excellent, and there were four yurts in the entrance to the glen. This locality possesses the same name as the pass, namely Scho-ovo-tu, and it is said to be derived from the fact that on an adjacent height there are three obos (ovos). The altitude here was 3068 m.

The Mongols whom we found at this place had come from Särtäng three weeks earlier, and as soon as the grass was done, they intended to repair to some other side-glen in the neighbourhood. These people, together with several other